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ABSTRACT

This report informs researchers, educators, and laymen about the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan. The report gives a background of the school district, describes the 45-15 plan in detail, analyzes its effects on school and community, and chronologically summarizes significant events that followed implementation of the plan. The plan, developed mostly by professional educators from the district, was developed out of economic necessity and not primarily as an experiment. Under the plan, students in the district spend 45 school days in school and 15 school days out of school in each of four cycles. In order to have the school in continuous operation, only one fourth of the students are on vacation at any one time. Hence, the students are placed in four groups staggered by 15-day periods. Reprints of numerous newspaper articles discussing the plan are included. Some of these reprints may reproduce poorly. (Author/JF)

PREFACE

We wish to acknowledge the guidance provided to us by the following individuals in our first venture into the utilization of federal assistance in the area of elementary educational research:

Mr. Joseph A. Murnin, Director, Educational Research - Region 5.

Mrs. Ellen G. Dye, Research Associate, Region 5.

Dr. William Rogge, Professor of Education, University of Illinois.

Without this assistance the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan may have been delayed.

This plan as seen by Mr. Robert M. Beckwith, Manager, Education Department, Illinois State Chamber of Commerce, is "a new chapter in the history of American education."

I INTRODUCTION

This final report seeks to answer questions that other researchers, educators, and laymen will ask about the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan.

In order to understand the 45-15 Plan one must necessarily have some background of Valley View School District #96. Then the 45-15 Plan will be described in detail with an analysis of how this 45-15 Plan affects various aspects of the school and community. A chronological summary of significant happenings and their implications after the plan began operations is significant.

Much of the information in the various sections of this report is deliberately repetitious so that, while the section will not necessarily stand alone as a meaningful document, the section will be more or less self-contained.

What is the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan? Answer: It is a scheduling plan whereby the staff members and physical facilities are utilized more days of the year than they would be utilized under a traditional September through May school year.

Why was the 45-15 Plan developed and implemented? Answer: The 45-15 Plan was developed out of necessity. It was not designed primarily as an experimental plan, an innovation, or a way to add more days of classroom instruction for the pupils. In the framework of this report it should be noted that almost every man, woman, and child in Valley View District #96 will be affected by this scheduling system.

This plan was developed by professional educators many of whom live in the boundaries of District #96 and whose children will attend school under this plan. The school board members who made the final decision on whether or not the school district would be operated under this plan are all residents of District #96, aware of the fact that they will have frequent contact with the parents, businessmen, staff, and others who are greatly affected by this plan, and who are responsive to the needs and wants of their voters who elected them to the school board.

Two other points should be noted. First, this report is to tell people about the 45-15 Plan--not necessarily to sell them on the idea that this plan should be adopted by all other school districts. Secondly, it should be noted that this plan is not a panacea for all problems which are present in the typical school district. The plan may solve problems of lack of classroom space and a few other selected problems, but it will not itself serve as an answer to school districts which are plagued by some types of problems.

In short, Valley View School District #96 had a problem. Researching found an answer to this problem. The solution is working and indicates that it will continue to work. Other school districts may have similar type problems that may be wholly or partially solved by means of a rescheduled school year.

This report tells of the work and planning done, data collected and developed, the experience gained, and the rationale for various decisions.

II A. VALLEY VIEW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #96

(GENERAL AREA)

Valley View District #96 is closely connected with several cities. It is a few miles north of Joliet, the county seat of Will County. The city of Joliet was founded in 1831 and incorporated by the Illinois General Assembly in 1857. The first settlers in this area of the Des Plaines River Valley were attracted by the fertile soil in the gently rolling prarie terrain, easy access to large quantities of soft coal, a wide variety of standing timber, and the Des Plaines River as a means of transportation.

At the present time Joliet is a transporation center in this section of the Midwest. The Illinois Deep Water Way (the Illinois-Michigan Canal and the Chicago Ship and Sanetary Canal) carries a tremendous amount of barge traffic. Illinois Waterway is a method of bulk shipment from Lake Michigan (hence all the five great lakes and the Saint Lawrence Seaway) to the Gulf of Mexico and all inland ports on the Mississippi-Ohio-Missouri-Tennessee Rivers System. Shipments of coal, petroleum products, chemicals, grain, and manufactured goods total 27 million short tons per year. To give some perspective on this, the Lockport Locks at the southeast tip of the school district handles more freight tonnage per year than the Panama Canal.

The 1950 census of Will County was 134,336; the 1969 population was 233,000. Much of this growth of 100,000 persons was in the Valley View School District.

Joliet ranks 8th in population in Illinois but ranks 6th in retail sales in Illinois. Will County serves a trading area of 1200 square miles with a population of 250,000.

Commercial air transportation from Midway Airport and O'Hare International Airport in Chicago is only 25 miles and 30 miles respectively from the center of District #96.

Six bus lines, 79 motor freight lines, and seven major railroads serve the Joliet Region--Will County area with daily passenger and/or freight service.

Lockport, Illinois, Joliet, Illinois, and the immediate surrounding area within 15 minutes driving distance from Romeoville-Bolingbrook has 300 manufacturing industries, producing 2000 different products. The principal products include railroad equipment and materials, semi-finished iron and steel goods, steel tanks, wire, shoes and leather goods, books, wallpaper, many kinds of chemicals, packaging machinery, road building and earth moving machinery, furniture manufacturing, nurseries, clay and cement products, native stone and finished stone for construction purposes, electrical power generating, lumber processing, sand and gravel.

Stateville (more commonly called Joliet Prison), is on the south boundary of the school district.

II B. VALLEY VIEW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #96

(HISTORY)

School District #96 consists of grades Kindergarten through eight. It is located in Northeastern Will County, in the State of Illinois. The district's boundaries include 5/6th of DuPage Township, 1/6th of a section of Wheatland Township, and 1/3rd of Lockport township.

In area, District #96 is one of the largest elementary school districts in the State of Illinois. Due to the proximity of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, the Gulf, Mobile, and Ohio, the Chicago and Indiana Western, and the Santa Fe Railroads, and the excellent highways such as inter-state 55, connecting with interstate 89, the district is in a position to attract industry and much more residential population.

The area that now comprises School District #96 was once divided into 8-1 room country schools.

An interesting part of the district's history is centered on the Village of Romeoville, at present one of two only incorporated areas within the district. Romeoville was originally planned as a romatic twin for Juliet, (later called Joliet.) Romeoville is located ten miles north of the city of Joliet, Illinois. The village was originally developed around the busy stone quarry trade along with a railroad that stimulated commerce in the middle 19th century. The area supplied much of the stone needed in early railroad building and other construction, and it was known as "Stone City." Only the coming of concrete brought a decline in the areas activity and population. Officially, Romeoville was incorporated in Illinois on January 21, 1895.

In 1952, six one-room country schools were unified by annexation. In 1953, one more one-room country school was annexed. Thus, forming School District #96. At that time the population of Romeoville, the only incorporated area, was 150. The population was relatively stable until 1957.

In 1957, 600 acres were taken into the Village of

Romeoville and the first Hampton Park sub-division was started. Soon afterwards, many more sub-divisions began construction in the rural area with several more sub-divisions of Hampton Park. All of the housing developments have grown at a very rapid rate. The rural areas of the district have experienced a build-up, and several of the sub-divisions have formed the Village of Bolingbrook, Illinois.

From a beginning enrollment of 89 students in 1953 to the district's current enrollment (1969-70) of 5,500 students, the taxpayers of District #96 have continually been able to provide the highest quality of education and up-dated facilities for their children.

This tremendous effort of support on behalf of the taxpayers of District #96 is outlined in the following description of each of the District #96 Schools:

VALLEY VIEW SCHOOL

Valley View School was constructed in 1953-54, with building additions made between the years 1955 to 1959. The school has 31 classrooms and a capacity of 930 pupils.

PARK VIEW SCHOOL

Park View School was constructed in 1962-63 with building additions made between the years 1963-64. The school has 44 classrooms and a capacity of 1,200 pupils.

NORTH VIEW SCHOOL

North View School was constructed in 1963-64. The building has 31 classrooms and a capacity of 1,000 pupils.

WEST VIEW JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

West View Junior High School was constructed in 1966-67. The building has teaching stations rather than traditional classrooms and a capacity of 1,200 pupils.

BROOK VIEW SCHOOL

Brook View School was constructed in 1968-69. The building has 16 classrooms and a capacity of 480 pupils.

RIDGE VIEW SCHOOL

Ridge View School was completed in 1969. The building has 16 classrooms and a capacity of 480 pupils.

Thus, the total capacity of students in the 6 District #96 Schools is 5,290 pupils with a present current enrollment of 5,500 pupils from 1st through 8th grade.

The construction of the 6 previously cited schools, has, as has been pointed out, a result of a tremendous growth within District #96. Another result of constructing the 6 previously cited schools in the district has bonded itself to a 98% level.

Presently in the State of Illinois, District #96 can only by law bond for building purposes a maximum of 5% of the district's assest evaluation. Consequently, in 1968, District #96 was faced with the problem with having to live with its 6 school buildings, and at the same time, having to house the continued growth of students in its schools.

A simple solution to overcoming this problem would have been to build more schools. As was pointed out, it could not be done. The taxpayers of District #96 had approved borrowing the maximum amount of money for building purposes under state law. As a result of District #96's problem, there could be as many as 60 student-plus in one classroom or half day sessions. District #96 not only faced the problem of housing additional students, in grades 1-8 through the 1970's but the district also faced the problem of meeting the state law affective in 1970 which required the school district to provide a kindergarten education.

Thus, the Board of Education of District #96 at its August 26th, 1968 Board of Education meeting, approved the following resolution.

"I move that the Board of Education of School District #96 direct the District Administrative team to begin, possibilities of up-dating the District #96 school calendar. That the ultimate primary purpose of these investigative procedures shall be to design a sound educational program for the extended use of school facilities and personnel in District #96. Also, that the Administrative Team make recommendations to the Board of Education on their findings and that these recommendations shall be made with the expressed purpose of up-dating the District #96 school calendar no later than the 1971-72 school year."

II C VALLEY VIEW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #96

(HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE)

The Valley View School District #96, ten years ago, was a rural area surrounding the small town of Romeoville which is astride the Illinois River and is forty-five miles south west of Chicago. The suburban explosion overtook it in 1962. From a stable school population of 200 pupils, it has grown in the last eight years to 7,200 and probably will not stop until it reaches 15,000 or more by 1980 or later. The assessed evaluation per student dropped from $130,000 to $23,000 in ten years because homes rapidly overwhelmed business, industry, and farm land. The new families represent the flight from high density Chicago communities as well as seekers for the new job opportunities in nearby Argonne National Laboratory, the Weston Nuclear Reactor and other enterprises. The community has assessed itself to its legal limit for the construction of new school buildings which are not enough to take care of expected increases in enrollment. Hence, some expanded use of existing facilities was required. The solution was the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan - a staggered vacation approach. The district's experience with double shifts at two schools earlier ruled out shifts as an acceptable solution. Events happened this way---

About two years ago, a member of the Board of Education recommended to the Superintendent that a study be made of year-round school operations. An initial timetable of about three years was envisioned, but quickly mounting interest in the plan changed the timetable from a three-year study to a two-year tooling up and implementation plan.

Two major forces speeded up the action. The first was the rapid growth of the District, from 1,400 in 1961-62 to 5,400 in 1968-69. The second force was, in contrast, the assessed valuation per pupil, which dropped from $71,083 in 1960 to $23,472 in 1968. The result of the two forces was to bring the District to the limit of its bonding power. Sufficient classroom space was becoming increasingly difficult to achieve.

The first calendar was produced in October 1968. The prototype visual presentation was ready by December, 1968.

Next a combination slide-type presentation was prepared. All faculty, parents who attended parent-teacher meetings and other interested community people heard the presentation at least once. Opportunities were given for questions and answers. Other publicity included newspaper articles, "dial-a-message" presentations, and radio and television announcements.

However, the detailed consequences of the program were not posed until the actual scheduling of individual students was begun. A contract was made with an outside computer-services company to test the cost and possibility of working through computers. The actual work was initiated in June, 1969 and was completed, after several adjustments, by December so that written announcements could be mailed to all families in January. The announcement told each family which of the four vacation groups it would be in. Up to that time, this proved to be the most critical operation of the whole planning process. The announcement made real to the family that the Plan was a fact. If a major resistance were to occur, then letters and phone calls in protest would deluge the district. Instead, only twenty-four phone calls and letters were received, and most of these sought clarification and not relief.

The next toughest job was the scheduling of the teachers which progressed through two major stages. First, a task force was formed to study the ramifications of the Plan for professionals. They came forth with a series of recommendations, the most important being that individual teachers have an option about the length of their contract and that three teachers could form a team or "cooperative" schedule. Second, the principals then worked with the teachers to produce the actual schedules, under the direction of a coordinator.

It is important to understand that the decision to go with the 45-15 Plan rather than one of the other two broken vacation designs was not a precipitous one. While no large expenditure of resources was made in reaching that decision, the expenditure was restricted deliberately. It seemed far better to concentrate in studying the variations and consequences of one plan than to spend more time in comparing plans. There seemed to be far more significant variables within each plan that needed attention than between plans. Whether this was a wrong decision or not cannot be determined with suitable finality until some other school district tries out the other plans in the new climate of "tax-payer revolts." While it is true that application of other year-round plans before WWII all resulted in eventual abandonment, conceivably one or more might survive now. However, an important lesson of these terminated programs was the resistance of the communities to a kind of cavalier treatment of the traditional summer vacation. It was either shoved to other times of the year or omitted.

Most families in the Valley View District view the breaking up of the summer vacation as an equally acceptable concept to the solid three months of vacation, or an actual improvement. (See review in Section V, "Possible Alternative Plans.") In hindsight, the decision to study one plan in depth looks even better now. Far more complexity exists than ever conceived of initially. A second hindsight is an awareness now that the concept of staggered vacations, inherent to the 45-15 Plan, and the means of reducing classroom space, had a peculiar air of obviousness, despite no real experience with staggered vacation in education. It was as if no one ever really thought about staggered vacations in education, yet when the 45-15 Plan began to be seriously discussed, it was, well, "just so obvious."

Next, the staff produced a visual representation of the staggered vacations. For the next year, it became the core of all discussion. One could look at it and easily provide many answers to the question, "What are all of the consequences if this calendar were to be put into effect in the Valley View School District #96, Lockport, Illinois?"

In the meantime, interest was generated in several outside groups and agencies. First, the Regional Office of the USOE (Chicago, Illinois) contracted for the activities described in this report (See especially Section IV). Second, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ray Page, and several members of his staff helped in struggling through the many legal entanglements. This resulted in the enactment of specific legislation, making it clear that the activities were legal and that the school district was entitled to full reimbursement of State Aid. Third, the USOE signed a contract with the school district to prepare a comprehensive evaluation design and collect base line data, the work to be completed by July 31, 1970. Fourth, many state and national newspapers and other periodicals have printed articles about the Plan.

ASSESSED VALUATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT #96

SCHOOL YEAR	ASSESSED VALUATION	$ INCREASE	% INCREASE
1953-1954	$ 14,426,747		
1954-1955	16,943,827	2,517,080	17.5
1955-1956	30,248,256	13,304,429	78.5
1956-1957	36,375,813	6,127,577	20.2
1957-1958	52,817,880	16,442,067	45.2
1958-1959	55,703,725	2,885,845	5.4
1959-1960	59,218,245	3,514,520	6.3
1960-1961	63,974,810	4,756,565	8.0
1961-1962	65,619,359	1,644,549	2.5
1962-1963	69,495,162	3,875,803	5.9
1963-1964	87,315,323	17,820,161	25.5
1964-1965	91,671,252	4,355,929	4.9
1965-1966	95,064,591	3,393,339	3.7
1966-1967	97,747,511	2,682,920	2.8
1967-1968	112,647,949	14,900,438	15.2
1968-1969	116,000,000	3,353,051	2.9
1969-1970	120,000,000	4,000,000	3.4
1970-1971	126,000,000**	6,000,000	5.0
1971-1972	132,000,000**	6,000,000	4.7

**Estimated

JPP

YEARLY CHANGE IN
ASSESSED VALUATION PER PUPIL
SCHOOL DISTRICT #96

SCHOOL YEAR	VALUATION PER PUPIL	$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
1953-1954	$ 162,098	$ 43,612	- 26.9
1954-1955	118,486	65,955	+ 35.8
1955-1956	184,441	2,562	- 1.4
1956-1957	181,879	79,596	+ 43.8
1957-1958	261,475	7,116	- 2.7
1958-1959	254,359	145,100	- 57.0
1959-1960	109,259	38,176	- 35.8
1960-1961	71,083	24,212	- 34.0
1961-1962	46,871	9,807	- 20.9
1962-1963	37,064	683	- 1.8
1963-1964	36,381	4,911	- 13.5
1964-1965	31,470	2,819	- 9.0
1965-1966	28,651	2,710	- 9.5
1966-1967	25,941	15	- 1.0
1967-1968	25,926	2,454	- 9.5
1968-1969	23,472	2,032	- 8.7
1969-1970	21,440	4,025	- 18.8
1970-1971*	17,415**	915	- 5.3
1971-1972	16,500**		

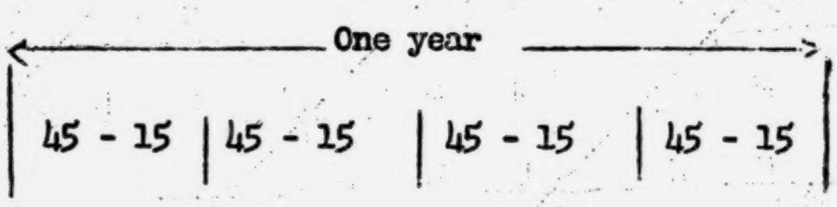
* Kindergarten begins
**Estimated

JPP

III THE VALLEY VIEW 45-15 CONTINUOUS SCHOOL YEAR PLAN

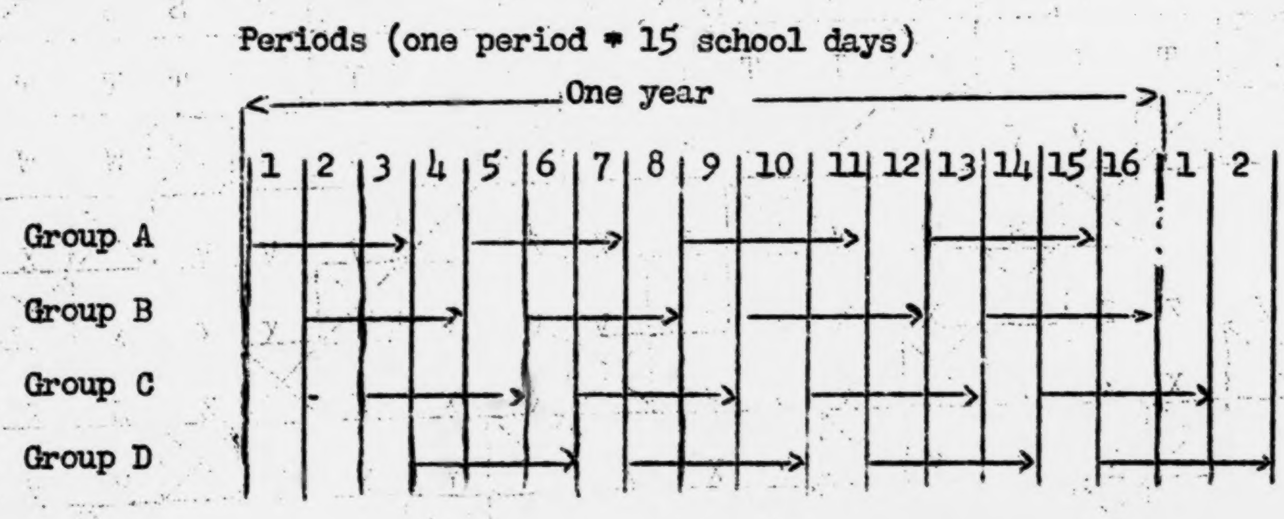
The basic format of the plan is very simple. Students are in school for 45 school days and out for 15 school days. The total cycle of 60 (45 ± 15) school days, added to weekends and vacations, comes to about three months. Four cycles make up a year. Figure 1 is a schematic representation for one year.

Figure 1


One year
45 - 15
45 - 15
45 - 15
45 - 15

However, in order to have the school in continuous operation, only one fourth of the students are on vacation at any one time. Hence, the students are placed in four groups that are staggered by 15-day periods. In this fashion, three fourths of the students are always in school.

Figure 2


Periods (one period = 15 school days)
One year
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
1
2
Group A
Group B
Group C
Group D

NOTE: The arrows indicate the periods during which a group is in school. The blank spaces are vacation periods.

Figure 3

Tracks and teacher assignment variations possible in Valley View's Junior High School

Periods (One period = 15 school days)

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Extension 1	Extension 2
Eng.7	A	L	L	L	☒	O	O	O	☒	N	N	N	☒	L	L	L	☒		
	B	☒	M	M	M	☒	M	M	M	☒	L	L	L	☒	R	R	M	☒	
	C		☒	N	N	N	☒	L	L	L	☒	O	O	O	☒	O	O	O	☒
	D			☒	L	L	L	☒	O	O	O	☒	N	N	N	☒	R	R	R
Eng.8	A	O	O	O	☒	P	P	P	☒	M	M	M	☒	M	M	M	☒		
	B	☒	P	P	P	☒	N	N	N	☒	Q	Q	Q	☒	P	P	P	☒	
	C		☒	Q	Q	Q	☒	Q	Q	Q	☒	P	P	P	☒	Q	Q	Q	☒
	D			☒	R	R	Q	☒	P	P	P	☒	R	Q	Q	☒	N	N	N
Math.7	A	S	S	S	☒	S	S	S	☒	S	S	S	☒	S	S	S	☒		
	B	☒	T	T	T	☒	T	T	T	☒	T	T	T	☒	T	T	T	☒	
	C		☒	V	V	V	☒	W	W	W	☒	W	W	W	☒	W	W	W	☒
	D			☒	W	W	W	☒	Z	Z	Z	☒	V	V	V	☒	X	X	X
Math.8	A	Z	Z	Z	☒	X	X	Z	☒	V	V	V	☒	X	X	X	☒		
	B	☒	X	X	X	☒	V	V	V	☒	X	X	X	☒	Z	Z	Z	☒	
	C		☒	Y	Y	Y	☒	X	X	X	☒	Y	Y	Y	☒	V	V	V	☒
	D			☒	Z	Z	Z	☒	Y	Y	Y	☒	Z	Z	O	☒	Y	Y	Y
Band (½)		E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	H	H	E	E	E		
Football		F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F									
Library		G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	H	H	G	G	G	G	G		

NOTE: Because tracks C & D start later and extend into the second year, it is assumed in this illustration that teacher contracts are extended to complete tracks C & D.

FIGURE 4

Summary of Figure 3

Teacher	Days on Year Contract	Extension	Total Contract	Groups[2] Worked With
L	225	---	225	(4) Eng 7-A,B,C,D
M	195	---	195	(2) Eng 7-B; Eng 8-A.
N	210	30	240	(5) Eng 7-A,C,D; Eng8-B,D
O	225	15	240[3]	(4) Eng 7-A,C,D;Eng8-A, (Sc 8-D)
P	240	---	240	(4) Eng 8-A,B,C,D
Q	210	15	225	(3) Eng 8-B,C,D
R	60	30	90	(3) Eng 7-B,D; Eng 8-D
S	180	---	180	(1) Sc 7-A
T	180	---	180	(1) Sc 7-B
V	210	15	225	(5) Sc 7-C,D; Sc 8-A, B,C
W	165	15	180	(2) Sc 7-C,D
X	225	30	255	(4) Sc 7-D; Sc 8-A,B,C
Y	150	30	180	(2) Sc 8-C,D
Z	225	---	225	(4) Sc 7-D; Sc 8-A,B,D
	2,700	180	2,880	
E (Band)	210 (½)	---	210 (½)	
F (Football)	135 (1/5)		135 (1/5)	
G (Library)	210		210	
H (Substitute)	60		60	

1. Extension means that teacher has extra days into the next contract period to complete a 45 day period with one class of students

2. Groups are not based on ability but on geographical areas.

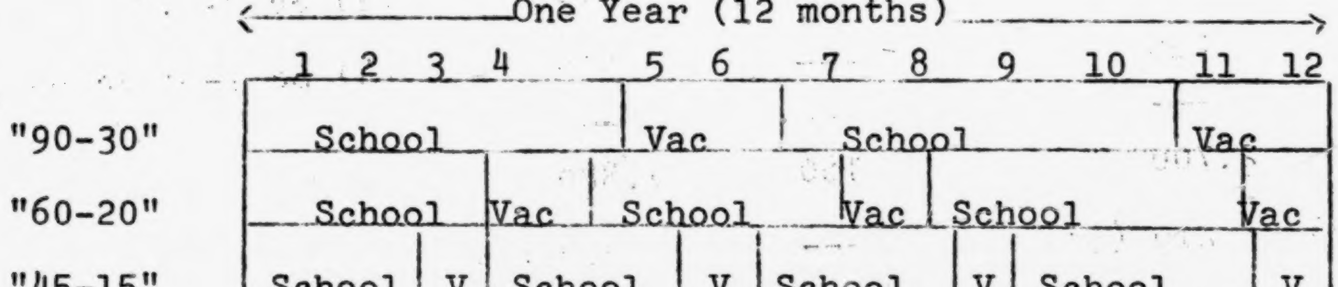
3. Fifteen days are as "substitute" to cover Science 8-D, 14th period.

The initial study by district personnel was made in September-October 1968. All available literature was read which made obvious that a critical variable had not been tested in the few year-round operations that had been tried out. The three-month long vacation, traditionally given in the summer, was either moved to another season of the year for part of the student population, or moved entirely so that a student attended twelve months a year. Not tried was breaking up the vacation into two, three, or four parts and spreading it throughout the year. All earlier attempts at year-round operation were abandoned for various reasons. One reason always seemed present, however, strong emotional resistance existed against long vacations in any season but summer, or against sending students to school for twelve months.

The literature also showed a disappointing lack of depth in the available research and evaluation studies. Most of the questions that were raised by the study group in School District #96 could not be answered adequately by past experience. It was soon evident that what was to become the Valley View 45-15 Year-Round-Plan could be a pioneer effort both in operation and in evaluation.

After the decision was made about breaking up the traditional three-month vacation one other question remained. Should two, three, or four vacation periods be planned? A schematic representation is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 5



The staff was then forced with a dilemma. Should all of the remaining exploratory activity be spent on comparing the three alternatives, or on studying in greater depth all of the options possible under one plan? The dilemma was resolved by comparing all of the possible good and poor features that the staff could conceive of. A summary of these considerations is shown in Figure 2. However, despite all of the pluses and minuses listed, one over-riding consideration existed -- What vacation pattern will the community most likely accept?

Figure 2

Staff judgements on three broken-vacation plans:

	"90-30"	"60-20"	"45-15"
Vacations	Month and a half is too long in any period but summer (-). Half of families would not have any vacation near or during summer (--).	Month-long vacation not satisfactory in winter (-). Some families would not have summer vacation (--).	Three weeks of vacation in each season of the year for all families (±) Families have more flexibility in combining with legal holidays (±). Some families might object to the shorter but more numerous vacations (-).
Scheduling	Both faculty and students would be changed around less often (±-). More easily explained to community (±).		More flexibility possible (±-). Difficult to explain to the community (-).
Continuity	Too similar to traditional vacation during which children lose contact with schools (-).		Short vacations often give respite to students but keep them emotionally closer to school (±±).

Figure 2
(cont.)

	"90-30"	"60-20"	"45-15"
Finances	No evident differences		
Busing	Schedules need changing less often (±).		Schedules need changing every 3 weeks, but the cycles occur so regularly most schedules could be repeated every 45 days (-).
Administration			More paper work for principals and some others (-).

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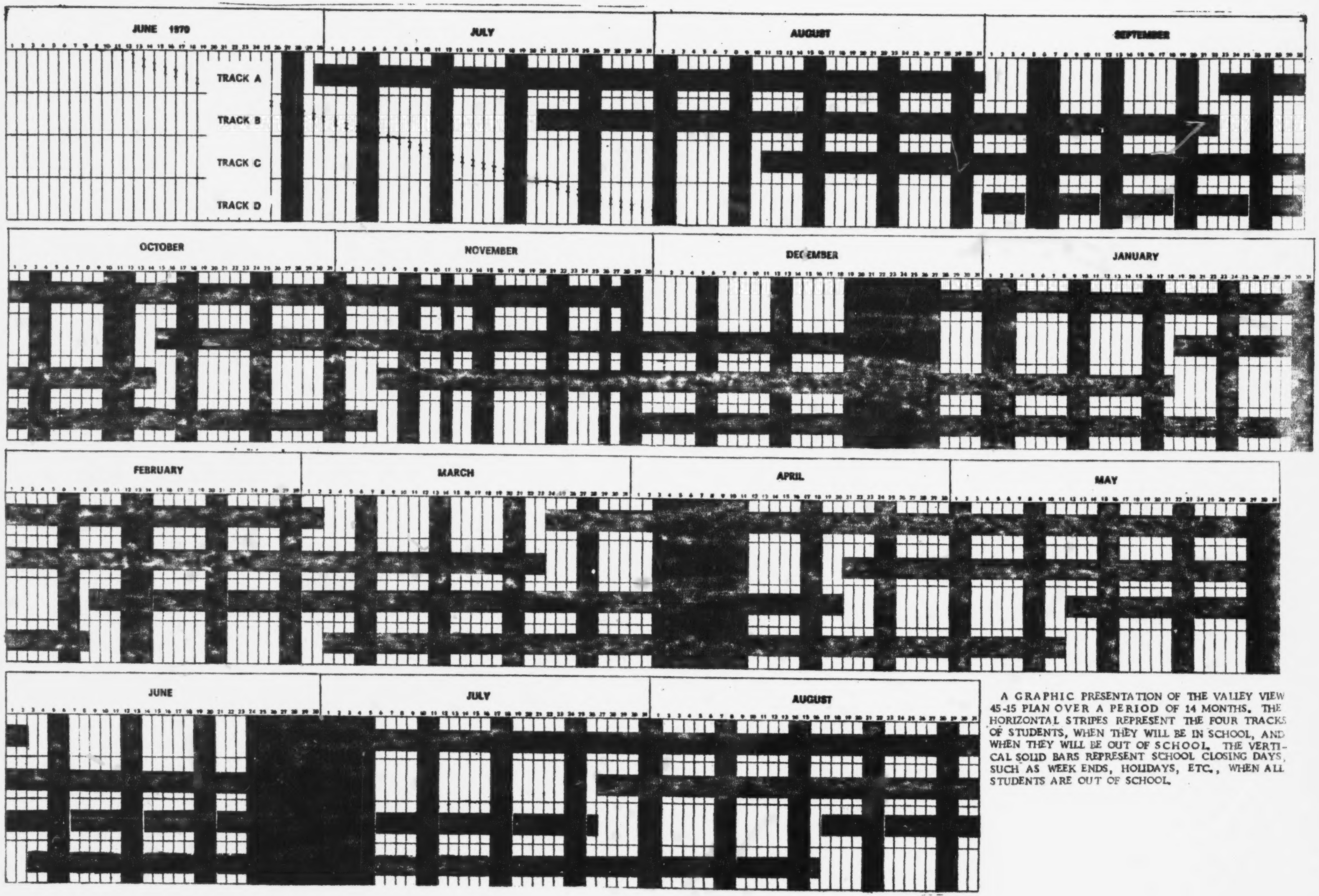

A GRAPHIC PRESENTATION OF THE VALLEY VIEW 45-15 PLAN OVER A PERIOD OF 14 MONTHS. THE HORIZONTAL STRIPES REPRESENT THE FOUR TRACKS OF STUDENTS, WHEN THEY WILL BE IN SCHOOL, AND WHEN THEY WILL BE OUT OF SCHOOL. THE VERTICAL SOLID BARS REPRESENT SCHOOL CLOSING DAYS, SUCH AS WEEK ENDS, HOLIDAYS, ETC., WHEN ALL STUDENTS ARE OUT OF SCHOOL.

1. Children from one family are on one group. This obviously permits the whole family to have vacations at the same time.

2. Families in small geographical areas are placed in the same group. This permits neighborhood informal social groups to continue.

3. When one group goes on vacation, another group comes back from vacation. Ordinarily, the returning groups will go to the rooms just vacated.

   If the teacher remains in one room which is possible if she works the full year, then she will have a different group of students every 45 school days. If the teacher takes her vacations to match one group, which is possible if she works only 180 days, then she will change rooms to match the students.

   No one variation has been incorporated into the plan in order to give teachers maximum flexibility. Teachers can work from 180 days, as in the regular school year, up to 240 days that are possible in the year round plan.

4. Teachers living in School District #96 who have children will ordinarily teach the same group that their children are in. The exception will be a teacher who is employed during all periods, thereby making it irrelevant whether he teaches in the same group that his children are in.

5. Special education classes, being small and few in number, will have all groups in one class. Thus, there might be 20 assigned to one classroom but only 15 (assuming 5 in each group) would be present at any one time.

6. In the junior high school (West View Junior High School), since there are no self-contained classrooms as in the elementary, the scheduling is both easier and harder. It is easier to work out add schedules because there is much greater variety in activities. It is harder because yet another variable is thrown into the mix. It also causes difficulty if a special class or activity such as a band or football, draws upon the whole school. In that case, the students on vacation would often be missing unless they were especially interested in the activity. However, the rotation of students would be an advantage to many teachers and in many activities because a smaller number would be involved over a longer period, thereby giving the teacher more time for individual attention.

Because of the large size of West View Junior High School (over 1300), each group could, in effect, make up a school. The 300± students could be treated as a separate school with the teachers assigned to them taking vacations at the same time as the students. In many ways, the group could consider themselves on a quarter system, as far as grades and assignments were concerned. It definitely would not be a quarter system as far as vacations are concerned, for traditional summer vacation is broken into four segements distributed throughout the year.

However, most of the teachers desired more than 180 days' employment, so that meant building a schedule that cut across groups just as in the elementary schools. The great flexibility possible in the plan allowed for teachers to be employed in various vacation combinations. Some of the possibilities are indicated in Figure 3.

7. The Plan can be initiated at any time, and a yearly calendar planned accordingly. Valley View chose to start it on June 30, 1970, so that at the end of the first year, students would have covered the same material by September 1971, as they would have with the traditional school year. This was deemed an important psychological advantage with the community.

However, the Plan could be initiated at any time. As it is a continuous year round operation, there is no inherent advantage to start one time rather than another. Only many relatively minor or important local considerations would determine the starting date. For example, starting during the traditional summer vacation period would mean that tax monies would be required three months earlier to pay salaries, though the amount of salaries would be less per month because they would be spread over 12 months instead of nine. (When teachers are now paid over 12 months, the last three months come after the period of employment, which is a year later and further increasing the time in which to collect taxes.)

8. Other significant features of the 45-15 Plan are:

   a. This scheduling pattern will be used for an entire school district, not just one building or grade level.

   b. This plan is reviewed as an ongoing, permanent arrangement; it is not a pilot project or experimental program or short term plan.

   c. The calendar schedule, census work, curriculum modification, community public relations efforts, staff assignment procedures, and solutions to transportation problems were locally conceived and implemented.

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8. d. This plan of year round scheduling is educationally sound. Literally hundreds of teachers and other persons with training and/or experience in education have studied the plan; no one has critized the plan as having educational shortcomings or any significance.

e. Illinois school financing will support this method of school operation. The feeling of the school board and the school administrators is, "If we can't make it on our own from the beginning without special financial aid, we had better not start and take a chance of losing this special financial help."

f. This 45-15 class attendance arrangement fullfills all state and federal legislation and legal interpretations in regard to equality of education for all residents of the school district.

g. The continuous school year plan to be used provides for the observance of all legal holidays and a nine calendar day for everyone at the traditional religious periods of Christmas and Easter. In addition, there is summer closing of seven to eleven days. All pupils have a 15 class day vacation in each season.

IV A, (1) TEACHER SCHEDULING - GENERAL

The teacher scheduling problems are easily solved under the 45-15 Plan if the teacher is on the same vacation (i.e., follows the group of her students) as her students are on. But using only this solution was considered unsatisfactory for several reasons. (1) The teacher would receive no more pay than under the existing salary schedule as she would still be working only the regular 180 days. (2) Team teaching would be much more difficult because members of the team would be on vacations at different times. (3) The teacher would have to change rooms every cycle, for a total of four times a year. (4) Some teachers would resent the loss of the three summer months which are frequently used for non-school employment.

These problems are more obvious on the following basic scheduling outline (Figure 5) showing how three classrooms must be used to accommodate four groups of students. The letters A, B, C, and D represent four different groups.

Figure 5

Periods (one period = 15 school days)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Classroom X	A	A	A	D	D	D	C	C	C	B	B	B	A	A	A	D	D	D
Classroom Y		B	B	B	A	A	A	D	D	D	C	C	C	B	B	B	(A)	(A)[1]
Classroom Z			C	C	C	B	B	B	A	A	A	D	D	D	C	C	C	(B)[1]

Beginning new
contract year[2]

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[1] A and B Tracks here are starting their second year of instruction under the 45-15 Plan.

[2] The actual beginning of a "contract year" is arbitrary. It could be any time.

Note the various possibilities:

1. One teacher could stay in one classroom for one whole year, thereby working 240 days (16 periods) and teaching four different groups of students in a year's time. However, because two other teachers share the same four groups of students during the year and because they probably would work together closely (especially if the rooms were physically close together and the students were about the same age group) this option was called the "cooperative" plan by the teachers who chose to work 240 days.

2. One teacher could stay with one group of students, but change classrooms as indicated in Figure 5. The teacher would take vacation periods the same time as the students, thereby necessitating four teachers to be employed, with each teacher working only 180 days (12 periods).

Figure 6

Periods (One period = 15 school days)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Classroom X	AM	AM	AM	DP	DP	DP	CO	CO	CO	BN	BN	BN	AM	AM	AM	DP	DP	DP
Classroom Y		BN	BN	BN	AM	AM	AM	DP	DP	DP	CO	CO	CO	BN	BN	BN	X (AM)	X (AM)
Classroom Z			CO	CO	CO	BN	BN	BN	AM	AM	AM	DP	DP	DP	CO	CO	CO	X (BN)
Teachers on vacation	NOP[1]	OP[1]	P	M	N	O	P	M	N	O	P	M	N	O	P	M	N	O

A,B,C,D, = student groups, M,N,O,P = teachers

1. Unemployment of these teachers would occur until the program was in full operation, beginning with the third period.

2. The figure seems to indicate that teachers M and N are unemployed in periods 17 and 18, but the cells with the "X" are technically in the contract period of the second year.

3. Various combinations of the above two approaches could be worked out. The schedules in Valley View actually worked out contain several variations for the 1970-71 academic year. They include:

    a. Three cooperative teachers each working 225 days (15 periods) with "substitute" teachers employed for the three periods (one for each teacher) that they are on vacation. The vacations would be staggered so that at least two of the three regular teachers would be always on duty.

    b. Three teachers work under the cooperative plan but for only 180 days (12 periods). Thus, the schedule during the periods 12 through 18 would appear as in Figure 7. During two periods there would be all "substitute" teachers. Actually, the "substitute" teachers most likely would be regular teachers not in a cooperative group but who want more than 180 days of employment.

Figure 7

Teachers under a modified cooperative plan

Periods (one period = 15 school days)

	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Classroom X	M	S1	S1	S1	S1	M	M
Classroom Y	N	N	S2	S2	S2	S2	N
Classroom Z	O	O	O	S3	S3	S3	S3

S = substitute teacher

M,N,O = regular teachers

c. All teachers in one school work 225 days, stay in own classroom, and take an extra vacation for one period (15 school days) but staggered among the teachers involved.

What greatly aided the scheduling problems with teachers were a series of planning sessions by a group of twenty teachers who produced a series of questions and answers (see Appendix) and the idea of the"cooperative plan" with three teachers working together as a team. Some of the questions raised related to scheduling were answered as follows:

Matching of groups of teacher and her children

If a teacher's group does not match that of her children, the group of either can be changed, but it is preferred to change the working days of the teacher rather than the attendance days of the children. Rescheduling students is much more difficult than teachers.

School Year and Contract

The school year for a teacher is the period covered by the contract, whether 180 or more days, and covers the time that the groups she teaches is in school. Thus in 1970, the contract for group A will begin on June 30, 1970, while for group D it will begin on September 1, 1970.

Substitute Work

A teacher can choose either to be under substitute status during her vacation periods, and thus refuse work on any specific day, or be on full employment with consequent higher pay but be subject to placement as needed, either to cover a vacation period of another teacher or a regular substitute need.

Class Loads

Expected class loads will vary from 27 to 30 students per class during the 1970-71 academic year. No additional variation in class size is expected because of the plan. The average size will be about the same in 1970 as 1969. There is nothing inherent in the 45-15 Plan that requires larger or smaller classes.

Switching of Groups

Teachers will be allowed to switch groups at the end of the year if there is an opening, unless a need should arise earlier.

IV A (2) STAFF STATISTICS FOR FIRST YEAR OF 45-15

(AS OF JUNE 23, 1970)

1. 34.2% of staff working full year
   27.7% of staff working extended but not full year
   38.1% of staff working traditional year

2. 25.3% of primary teachers working full year
   13.4% of primary teachers working extended but not full year
   61.3% of primary teachers working traditional year

3. 40.8% of intermediate teachers working full year
   16.8% of intermediate teachers working extended but not full year
   22.4% of intermediate teachers working traditional year

4. 49.9% of junior high teachers working full year
   39.0% of junior high teachers working extended year
   11.1% of junior high teachers working traditional year

5. 61.9% of staff working extended to full year
   38.7% of primary teachers working extended to full year
   57.6% of intermediate teachers working extended to full year
   88.9% of junior high teachers working extended to full year

6. 20.6% of female teachers working full year
   26.8% of female teachers working extended but not full year
   52.6% of female teachers working traditional year

7. 61.1% of male teachers working full year
   32.4% of male teachers working extended but not full year
   6.5% of male teachers working traditional year

	221.5	Teachers
	4.0	Task Force
	4.0	Nurses
	4.0	Counselors
	2.0	Deans
	5.0	Consultants
TOTAL	240.5	Staff Members

TEACHER WORK YEAR

VALLEY VIEW 45-15 CONTINUOUS SCHOOL YEAR 1970-71

JUNE 23, 1970

Number of Days of Contract Year

	DAYS	TEACHERS	PERCENTAGE
(a)	175	1	.4%
(b)	184	91.5	37.7%
(c)	192	1	.4%
(d)	199	15	6.2%
(e)	204	3	1.2%
(f)	206	1	.4%
(g)	210	1	.4%
(h)	214	9	3.7%
(i)	224	1	.4%
(j)	225	1	.4%
(k)	226	1	.4%
(l)	229	33	13.6%
(m)	234	1	.4%
(n)	244	64	26.4%
(o)	259	1	.4%
(p)	274	18	7.4%

Traditional Year (184 days) vs. Extended Year:

(a) 38.1% of teachers will work traditional year.

(b) 61.9% of teachers will work extended year of 192 to 274 days.

(c) 34.2% of teachers will work full year of 244 to 274 days.

RNS
B96

Kindergarten Teachers.

Kindergarten teachers will work traditional year of 184 days, full day or half day.

Primary Teacher Contracts: Grades 1-3

(a) 61.3% of Primary teachers will work 184 days.

(b) 5.3% of Primary teachers will work 199 days.

(c) 5.3% of Primary teachers will work 214 days.

(d) 2.7% of Primary teachers will work 229 days.

(e) 25.3% of Primary teachers will work 244 days.

Intermediate Teacher Contracts:

(a) 22.4% of Intermediate teachers will work 184 days.

(b) 9.2% of Intermediate teachers will work 199 days.

(c) 1.3% of Intermediate teachers will work 204 days.

(d) 1.3% of Intermediate teachers will work 206 days.

(e) 5.3% of Intermediate teachers will work 214 days.

(f) 1.3% of Intermediate teachers will work 225 days.

(g) 18.4% of Intermediate teachers will work 229 days.

(h) 40.8% of Intermediate teachers will work 244 days.

RNS
D96

Junior High Teacher Contracts: Grades 7-8

(a) 11.1% of Junior High teachers will work 184 days.

(b) 1.9% of Junior High teachers will work 199 days.

(c) 1.9% of Junior High teachers will work 204 days.

(d) 1.9% of Junior High teachers will work 210 days.

(e) 1.9% of Junior High teachers will work 224 days.

(f) 29.6% of Junior High teachers will work 229 days.

(g) 1.9% of Junior High teachers will work 234 days.

(h) 16.6% of Junior High teachers will work 244 days.

(i) 1.9% of Junior High teachers will work 254 days.

(j) 31.4% of Junior High teachers will work 274 days.

Female Teacher Contracts (164.5)

	DAYS	TEACHERS	PERCENTAGE
(a)	184	86.5	52.6%
(b)	192	1	.6%
(c)	199	12	7.3%
(d)	204	2	1.2%
(e)	206	1	.6%
(f)	210	1	.6%
(g)	214	9	5.5%
(h)	224	1	.6%
(i)	225	1	.6%
(j)	229	16	9.7%
(k)	244	29	17.6%
(l)	274	5	3.0%

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Male Teacher Contracts (77)

	DAYS	TEACHERS	PERCENTAGE
(a)	184	5	6.5%
(b)	199	3	3.9%
(c)	204	1	1.3%
(d)	226	1	1.3%
(e)	229	17	22.1%
(f)	234	1	1.3%
(g)	236	1	1.3%
(h)	239	1	1.3%
(i)	244	33	42.9%
(j)	259	1	1.3%
(k)	274	13	16.9%

RNS
D96

Starting and Ending Dates for Teacher Contracts Under The 45-15 Schedule for 1970-1971 School Year

11 days	(a)	June 30, 1970 to July 14, 1970
15 days	(a)	July 21, 1970 to August 10, 1970
30 days	(a)	July 21, 1970 to August 31, 1970
33 days	(a)	July 15, 1970 to August 28, 1970
34 days	(a)	July 15, 1970 to August 31, 1970
39 days	(a)	June 30, 1970 to August 21, 1970
40 days	(a)	June 29, 1970 to August 21, 1970
45 days	(a)	November 5, 1970 to May 3, 1971
	(b)	June 30, 1970 to August 31, 1970
75 days	(a)	June 30, 1970 to May 21, 1971
184 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to June 2, 1971
	(b)	July 15, 1970 to May 11, 1971
	(c)	July 15, 1970 to June 23, 1971
	(d)	August 5, 1970 to July 26, 1971
	(e)	August 26, 1970 to June 2, 1971
	(f)	August 26, 1970 to August 16, 1971
192 days	(a)	August 24, 1970 to June 11, 1971
199 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to June 23, 1971
	(b)	July 15, 1970 to May 11, 1971
	(c)	July 15, 1970 to June 23, 1971
	(d)	August 5, 1970 to June 2, 1971
	(e)	August 26, 1970 to June 23, 1971

202 days	(a)	August 21, 1970 to June 23, 1971
204 days	(a)	June 23, 1970 to June 23, 1971
206 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to June 23, 1971
210 days	(a)	August 10, 1970 to June 22, 1971
214 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to May 11, 1971
	(b)	June 24, 1970 to June 2, 1971
	(c)	June 24, 1970 to June 2, 1971
	(d)	July 15, 1970 to June 2, 1971
	(e)	July 15, 1970 to June 23, 1971
	(f)	August 5, 1970 to August 16, 1971
	(g)	August 5, 1970 to June 23, 1971
221 days	(a)	August 5, 1970 to August 16, 1971
224 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to June 23, 1971
225 days	(a)	August 5, 1970 to July 26, 1971
229 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to June 2, 1971
	(b)	June 24, 1970 to June 23, 1971
	(c)	July 15, 1970 to June 23, 1971
	(d)	August 5, 1970 to July 26, 1971
	(e)	August 26, 1970 to August 16, 1971

234 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to June 17, 1971
236 days	(a)	August 17, 1970 to August 16, 1971
239 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to June 23, 1971
240 days	(a)	June 30, 1970 to June 23, 1971
244 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to June 23, 1971
	(b)	July 15, 1970 to July 26, 1971
	(c)	August 5, 1970 to August 16, 1971
259 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to July 26, 1971
274 days	(a)	June 24, 1970 to August 16, 1971

IV A (3) ITEMS NEGOTIATED FOR THE 1970-1971 SCHOOL YEAR

1. Professional growth requirements as required in the past are abolished.

2. Guidance and Counseling program for the 1970-71 school year will be no less than that available in the 1969-70 school year.

3. Extra duty assignments (outside the normal teacher day) will be assigned only with the consent of the teacher.

4. All openings for positions in the district will be posted in each building for the information of all certified personnel in the district. This information will be updated whenever a position becomes available or is filled.

5. Where staff members are engaged in school-related meetings and activities after school hours, they may be released early at the discretion of the principal.

6. The president and 2nd vice-president of the Association will each be provided two (2) hours per week to work on Association business.

7. Complete information on insurance coverage will be secured from the insuring companies and provided for each teacher.

8. Two emergency leave days will be granted by the building principal to allow for activities which cannot be scheduled at any other time.

9. A compilation of all welfare provisions (including the grievance procedure) will be printed and distributed to all certificated personnel.

10. Each teacher on a 184 day schedule will be entitled to 18 days sick leave per school term. Additional sick leave days will be pro-rated upward for teachers working an extended year. Unused sick leave days are cumulative up to 120 days. A note from a physician may be required after 4 consecutive days of absence.

11. Stipends for additional activities will be increased by 6.5% and a salary schedule for these activities will be included in the compilation of welfare provisions.

12. Salary adjustments for additional hours earned will be reflected in the first paychecks following the adjustment dates of July 1, September 30, and March 15.

13. Escrow accounts for leaves of absence may be set up through the Lockport Area Credit Union. Changes in such deductions will be reflected in the first paychecks following the adjustment dates of July 1, September 30, and March 15.

14. Paychecks will be distributed every 2 weeks during the teacher's contract period.

15. The salaries of nurses and the vision-hearing technician will be increased by 6.5% for the 1970-71 contract year.

16. In the case of teachers employed in District 96 prior to the 1969-70 school year, salary will be based on either post-degree or cumulative hours - whichever is of greater financial benefit to the teacher. For teachers employed subsequent to this time, all hours must be post-degree.

17. It has been mutually agreed that current efforts to limit class size at all levels be continued, realizing that limitations in financing and facilities must be to some degree governing factors. It has also been agreed that as facilities and finances permit, schedules may be adjusted and additional staff employed in an effort to lighten the load of non-teaching responsibilities of certificated staff members. Teacher aides will be employed as needed and a program involving high school students will be inaugurated.

18. The Welfare Committee of the Association and the Administration will meet on a monthly basis to improve communications. This roundtable will insure the selection of teachers and administrators to engage in serious academic study leading to:

    a. curriculum revision
    b. textbook selection
    c. handbook development
    d. planning for institute days (including ½ day sessions)

They will also work to insure the participation of teachers in community meetings. Roundtable meetings will be placed on the calendar.

19. School dismissal - Except for days when faculty meetings, staffings etc. are held, all teachers in the district are to arrive one-half hour prior to the beginning of the student day and are free to leave one-half hour after the end of the student day unless otherwise agreed to*. On days preceeding holidays, all teachers may leave fifteen minutes after the end of the student day.

    *In buildings containing primary and intermediate students, intermediate teachers are dismissed 15 minutes after the end of the students day, to coincide with the day for primary teachers. West View teachers are to arrive 20 minutes prior to the beginning of the student day and are free to leave 20 minutes after the end of the student day.

20. Provisions for payroll deductions will be outlined in the compilation of welfare provisions.

21. Every effort will be made to give District #96 teachers the opportunity to substitute during their scheduled time off periods.

IV A (4) TEACHER SALARY SCHEDULE FOR 1970-1971 (184 DAYS)

	B.A.	+10 140	+20 150	M.A.	+15 175	2nd MA or CAS
0	7200	7300	7400	7700	7900	8100
1	7428	7535	7641	7961	8174	8387
2	7535	7641	7748	8121	8334	8547
3	7748	7854	7961	8387	8600	8813
4	7961	8067	8174	8653	8866	9079
5	8174	8280	8387	8919	9132	9345
6	8493	8600	8706	9292	9505	9718
7	8706	8813	8919	9558	9771	9984
8	8919	9026	9132	9825	10,038	10,251
9	9132	9239	9345	10,091	10,304	10,517
10	9345	9452	9558	10,357	10,570	10,783
11	9771	9878	9984	10,783	10,996	11,209
12	9984	10,091	10,197	10,996	11,209	11,433
13		10,304	10,410	11,209	11,433	11,635
14		10,517	10,623	11,433	11,635	11,848
15			10,836	11,688	11,848	12,061
16			11,369	12,168	12,381	12,594
20	10,197	10,730	11,582	12,381	12,594	12,807
25			11,795	12,700	12,900	13,200

TEACHER SALARY SCHEDULE FOR 1970-1971 (DAILY RATE)

	B.A.	+10 140	+20 150	M.A.	+15 175	2nd MA or CAS
0	39.13	39.67	40.22	41.85	42.93	44.02
1	40.37	40.95	41.53	43.27	44.42	45.58
2	40.95	41.53	42.11	44.14	45.29	46.45
3	42.11	42.68	43.27	45.58	46.74	47.90
4	43.27	43.84	44.42	47.03	48.18	49.34
5	44.42	45.00	45.58	48.47	49.63	50.79
6	46.16	46.74	47.32	50.50	51.66	52.82
7	47.32	47.90	48.47	51.95	53.10	54.26
8	48.47	49.05	49.63	53.40	54.55	55.71
9	49.63	50.21	50.79	54.84	56.00	57.16
10	50.79	51.37	51.95	56.29	57.45	58.60
11	53.10	53.68	54.26	58.60	59.76	60.92
12	54.26	54.84	55.42	59.76	60.92	62.14
13		56.00	56.58	60.92	62.16	63.23
14		57.16	57.73	62.14	63.23	64.39
15			58.89	63.52	64.39	65.55
16			61.79	66.13	67.29	68.45
20	55.42	58.32	62.95	67.29	68.45	69.60
25			64.10	69.02	70.11	71.74

SCHOOL NURSE SALARY SCHEDULE - 1970-71 (184 DAYS)

YEARS \ HOURS	60(RN)	70	80	90	100	110
0	5865	5965	6065	6165	6265	6365
1	6071	6177	6284	6390	6497	6603
2	6177	6284	6390	6497	6603	6710
3	6284	6390	6497	6603	6710	6816
4	6390	6497	6603	6710	6816	6923
5	6550	6656	6763	6869	6976	7082
6	6710	6816	6923	7029	7136	7242
7	6869	6976	7082	7189	7295	7402
8	7082	7189	7295	7402	7508	7615
9	7295	7402	7508	7615	7721	7828
10	7508	7615	7721	7828	7934	8041

1. Nurses with a degree in nursing, nursing education or education are placed on the teacher's salary schedule according to education and experience.
2. Nurses receive the same fringe benefits as applied to certified personnel.

SCHOOL NURSE SALARY SCHEDULE 1970-71 (DAILY RATE)

YEARS \ HOURS	60(RN)	70	80	90	100	110
0	31.88	32.41	32.96	33.50	34.04	34.59
1	33.00	33.57	34.15	34.72	35.30	35.88
2	33.57	34.15	34.72	35.30	35.88	36.46
3	34.15	34.72	35.30	35.88	36.46	37.05
4	34.72	35.30	35.88	36.46	37.05	37.63
5	35.59	36.18	36.75	37.33	37.92	38.48
6	36.46	37.05	37.63	38.20	38.78	39.35
7	37.33	37.92	38.48	39.07	39.64	40.22
8	38.42	39.07	39.64	40.22	40.81	41.38
9	39.64	40.22	40.81	41.38	41.96	42.55
10	40.81	41.38	41.96	42.55	43.11	43.70

1. Nurses with a degree in nursing, nursing education or education are placed on the teacher's salary schedule according to education and experience.

2. Nurses receive the same fringe benefits as applied to certified personnel.

IV B (1) DISTRICT WIDE CENSUS

A complete door to door census was taken in Valley View School District #96, Will County, Illinois, during the summer of 1969.

School records, patterns of growth and other sociological factors were studied in order to make realistic projections of school needs in this district. It was suspected (and later confirmed) that a disproportionate number of pre-school children were living in the district. Also because District #96 is about six miles in length (North to South) and from three to six miles in width (East to West), a more precise geographical description of houses in the rural area would greatly aid bus routes and time schedules.

The District #96 Band Parents Association and the parents of the German Club students were contacted to organize and carry out the actual contracting of households. No mailing of census forms was done at this time.

The school board authorized payment of 25¢ per census form completed in the Hampton Park area and the Bolingbrook area. In the rural areas 50¢ per completed form was paid and census takers provided their own transportation and other expenses.

A standardized form was designed for simplicity of filling in, coding, and key punching from this one form. Written item by item directions were prepared for the census takers. Maps were furnished. A letter from Mr. Bruce Webster, President of the school board and from Mr. Shanks, President of the Bolingbrook Village Board which explained the reason for the census and which ask for the cooperation of all residents was given to each census taker.

Several Dial-Into-Education messages mentioning the census were utilized. Fliers were given to the children in school to take home. Several items were furnished to the local newspapers and were printed by them.

Mrs. Ann Pouk of the Band Parents distributed and collected materials and assigned areas to the census takers. Almost all the census takers were women.

Pilot Census. College View, a compact housing area near Lewis College, was selected for a pilot census because it was an area with definite boundaries and seemed to have a wide range of ages of children.

The pilot census in College View was exceptionally good. A 100% completion of the census forms was achieved for every household. This rate and accuracy of return is rarely achieved without an extended period of time and unusual expense. In the three houses where the residents were on vacation, neighbors supplied all information including birthdays of children.

Taking the pilot census was conducted so rapidly and accurately that census taking was started in Hampton Park and Bolingbrook simultaneously. Land developers supplied plat maps and house address listings. A high school girl was employed at an hourly rate to copy addresses to census sheets to insure that all houses were listed. Periodic checks of accuracy were made as completed forms were turned in.

In the rural areas a mailing address was secured since four different post offices serve the rural residents and no clearly-defined delivery areas have been ascertained. Description of house locations in the rural areas were expressed in terms of major roads, intersecting roads and milage distance. No effort was made to identify townships or physical land marks.

Registration Cross Check. A two day registration program at three of the schools was held in September. Census returns which had been keypunched and listed on a print out sheet were checked. Omissions and errors were noted and corrected.

Updating. A structured procedure for adding new residents and closing out those residents who moved out of the district was set up. As soon as a person moves into the district a census form, set of directions for completing census form, and a stamped return envelope are mailed to the resident. If a parent appears at one of the schools to enroll the child, the school clerk supplies a census form for the parent to fill out, and the school clerk forwards the form to the Research Office.

When a pupil moves away from the district, the school clerk sends a notification to the Research Office and the census information is removed from the file. Movements within the district are processed in the Research Office so that pupils can be assigned to the proper group assignment and the proper school building. Several followup reports of the census results appeared in the local and regional newspapers.

The consensus of opinion of administrators and others familiar with the pupil scheduling for the 45-15 Plan is that the census was very necessary to the implementation of the pupil scheduling for the first and also for subsequent years. School records by themselves would not have been sufficient to project pupil scheduling into the future. The cost in terms of time, money, and disruption of the school offices would have been high. Some factors could not have been identified at all by working with the school records. Examples are the counting of pre-school children who have no older siblings in District #96 Schools, locations of pupils living on rural routes, and more current phone numbers and places of employment of parents.

With the procedure for refining and up-dating census information, a door to door census of the entire school district should not have to be done again for school purposes.

Other Uses. The census information can be used for other purposes in addition to the pupil scheduling. Information from the Attendance Office can be cross-checked, records at individual school sites can be refined, data collection about parents who work on or live on federal property can be simplified and cross-checked for claims under PL-815 and PL-874.

PART IV B. 2. THE VALLEY VIEW 45-15 STUDENT SCHEDULING SYSTEM, REQUIREMENT AND APPROACH, PROGRESS REPORT TO SCHOOL BOARD, MARCH 24, 1969

From the study of the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan during the past months the district is satisfied that it understands the requirements that must be met by a scheduling system. District #96 formulated an approach to such a system that meets these requirements at a minimum cost.

This report discusses some of the matters that are considered.

In addition to a reaction to the details of this report, District #96 gave an "official" response to these questions:

(1) Is the 45-15 Plan viewed as a permanent approach to elementary education or merely as a necessity until new classrooms become available some three years hence? (Answer: Permanent approach)

(2) How "permanently prepared," then, must the district be when the plan goes into effect in June, 1970? Should the district find long range solutions to problems that arise? (Yes)

(3) How is the plan being represented to the public? "Bear with us, it will all be over in a year or so" or "This may prove to be an important improvement in your child's education"? (No) (Yes)

Output Requirements

The principal result to be obtained from the scheduling process is a set of "class lists." Each list represents a group of students assigned to:

- a school site
- an attendance cycle
- a grade level
- a teaching position (or homeroom)

Other output results needed by the 45-15 Plan were:

(1) Each family must receive a school schedule which clearly shows the attendance and vacation days for each pupil in the family. This schedule must project sufficiently far into the future to allow vacation plans to be made. If some pupils are to

begin class in June, 1970, it would be reasonable for parents to expect such schedules by the start of the 1969-70 school year. Certainly the schedules would be required before the end of 1969.

(2) It would be important for district personnel to be able to locate any pupil in the district at any time. The inability to do so would reflect severely on the 45-15 Plan's administration. It would be expected that each school office and the district office would have a master list of pupils showing their attendance cycle and school site. Revisions or addenda should be produced as needed. The district office information must be current at all times.

(3) At the initiation of the 45-15 Plan it will be necessary to transfer student records to the correct school site. To aid in this procedure, a list of pupils by sending school (i.e., the school which the pupil attends in May, 1970) showing his new school, should be available.

(4) In order to assign teachers, the district office must have a report by site, grade, and attendance cycle of scheduled classes.

(5) Junior High students must have their Student Course Elections divided into attendance cycles prior to the preparation of the Tally and Pairing Matrix.

(6) The district office should receive summary reports showing room utilization, seat availability, etc. These must be kept current as pupils transfer in and out.

(7) A list of pupils to be transported to each site should be available to allow preparation of bus schedules. This list would help establish the routes initially and could be revised from year to year to balance bus loads.

(8) In addition to the specific output requirements listed above it might be desirable to have the facility to produce class lists from time to time. These lists (or "index cards") could be used for attendance reporting, marks and test score recording, etc., similar to the system used at West View now.

Constraints and restrictions that were considered in the building of the 45-15 schedule

To assist in the analysis of schedule requirements District #96 broke possible constraints into three categories: those imposed by the wishes of the community (chiefly parents); those suggested by educational objectives; those related to administrative policy and procedures.

This categorization does not in any way suggest conflict exists between the types of possible constraints. Neither is it expected that a consideration claimed by one category lies only there. We are simply breaking the subject into more manageable pieces.

A. Community consideration

1. Pupils in a single family should be on the same attendance cycle.
2. Pupils in a neighborhood group should be on the same attendance cycle. The concern here is the ability of parents to supervise out-of-school pupils. In our opinion it is quite important that a parent knows when to expect to see children in the streets of the neighborhood.
3. Kindergarten pupils living within walking distance of a school site which offers kindergarten must attend that school.
4. Primary pupils living within walking distance of a school site should attend that school.
5. A pupil should attend the same school site all year.
6. Some coordination is required between the schools and existing community programs.

B. Educational considerations

1. The kindergarten pupils will attend on a two-shift per day basis.
2. Pupils meeting existing minimum starting age restrictions for September entry will be allowed to begin school in June, July, or August.
3. The "ungraded" primary program will be maintained.
4. Elementary class size should range 30-35 pupils.

5. Extra-curricular activities should be available to all pupils, regardless of attendance cycle.

6. Elective courses at the junior high level should be available to all pupils.

7. A class at the primary level should have the same teacher all year.

C. Administrative considerations

1. Classrooms should be fully utilized all year.

2. No special provision for building maintenance need be made.

3. Class size variance across the district should be minimized.

4. A school site should have the same attendance boundary for all grades attending that school.

5. Present grade-level or course assignments of individual teachers should be maintained where possible if the teacher requests.

6. Pupil transportation costs should be minimized.

Based on June, 1969 enrollment, the school district housing status was:

Pupil Group	Enrollment	Housing
1) Regular grades 1-3	2075	64 rooms at 2 sites
2) Regular grades 4-6	1679	51 rooms at 3 sites
3) EMH	58	2 rooms at Park View
4) Special 5-6 program	148	West View
5) Grades 7-8	1082	West View
6) Kindergarten	0	None
Total	5042	

Pupil Group	Present Enrollment	1969-70 @12%	1970-71 @12% & KG
1) Regular grades 1-3	2075	2324	2603
2) Regular grades 4-6	1679	1880	2105
3) EMH	58	65	75
4) Special 5-6 program	148	166	186
5) Grades 7-8	1082	1212	1357
6) Kindergarten	0	0	600*
Total	5042	5647	6924

*(Note: throughout this report, kindergarten pupils will be assumed on a double shift basis and the full-time-equivalent (FTE) enrollment figure used, e.g. 600 x 2 is 1200 pupils)

The Elementary and Intermediate Program

To discuss scheduling the school district, it must keep in mind differing needs of each of the six pupil groups. For the 1969-70 school year there will be 133 classrooms available at 5 sites to house the 4204 pupils in regular grades 1-6. This is an average class size of 31.6. Current plans dictate housing additional 1-6 pupils and the kindergarten in those same 133 classrooms.

If the district makes room for kindergarten and keeps average class size at 33, it would effectively need at least 161 classrooms for the K-6 regular program by 1970.

Let us examine that need in detail. The 1970-71 Kindergarten through Grade 6 program might look like this:

Grade	1970-71 Enrollment	Classrooms @33 pupils
KG	660	20
1	975	29
2	759	23
3	891	27
4	726	22
5	693	21
6	693	21

Ideally, the Valley View 45-15 Plan can reduce the housing requirement by one-third. The following exhibits demonstrate how the 45-15 Plan might schedule the pupils using 124 physical classrooms.

Exhibit A shows classes offered at each grade level on each cycle at the 5 school sites. This is the type of pattern that results from the various constraints pertinent to the scheduling process.

Exhibit B shows the number of pupils served in each case during the twelve month year.

Comments on the K-6 Sample Schedule

1) The schedule leaves 9 classrooms free year-round and 3 part time. Holding class size to 33 pupils means that a perfect schedule as full utilization allows for additional growth of 473 pupils after June, 1970.

2) The 45-15 Plan causes 133 classrooms to become, effectively, 177 classrooms. This means a one-pupil increase in average class size accommodates a total of 177 additional pupils.

3) A double-shift kindergarten program means each physical classroom accommodates 88 kindergarten pupils during twelve months. The schedule allows 3 classrooms for kindergarten at each site for a total of 15. Three-shift kindergarten would require 9 classrooms total.

4) With even very complicated techniques a "perfect" schedule (one which uses all space fully) can not be expected. Geography, family mix, and mobility conspire against such a schedule being maintained for an entire year.

The Junior High School Program

The enrollment projections suggest the 1970-71 pupil load at the junior high will exceed 1500 pupils. This is at least one-third over planned capacity.

The actual scheduling task at the junior high in 1970 was to find space in 17 classrooms to offer 8 course sections to each of 1400 pupils over 12 months. If there are seven periods available per day at 34 pupils each then 1012 pupils are served daily and, under the Valley View 45-15 Plan, 1349 will be served during the 12-month year.

The following tables show the uses made of the junior high facilities (excluding gym, study hall, etc.) based on fall 1968 enrollments.

General Purpose Classrooms

	No. of Rooms	Total Pupil Period	No. of Section	Average Section Size	Daily Room Load
5th grade subjects	2	272	8	34	136
6th grade subjects	2	260	8	32.5	130
Remedial Classes	1	36	5	-	36
German-I	1	154	6	25.7	154
German-II	1	161	6	26.8	161
	7	883	33		
Science-7	5	573	21	27.3	
Science-8		451	14	32.2	
Math-7	4	574	16	35.9	
Math-8		442	12	36.8	
Comm Arts-7	4	533	16	33.3	
Comm Arts-8		445	12	37.1	
Comm Arts-H	0	23	(3)	-	
Soc Stud-7	4	534	16	33.4	
Soc Stud-8		445	12	37.1	
	17	4020	119	33.8	237

Special Purpose Rooms

	No. of Rooms	Total Pupil Period	No. of Section	Average Section Size	Daily Room Load
Shops	3	363	18		121
Art	3	147	10		68
		27	2		
		29	2		
Typing	1	160	7		160
Chorus	1	69	2		121
		28	1		
		24	1		
Band-I	1	31	2		206
Band-II		65	1		
Band-III		110	1		
Home Ec	3	263	14		109
		15	1		
		48	3		
	12	1379			
E.M.H.	3	216	6	12	72

Exhibit A

Valley View Schools - District #96 - Enrollment Summary Work Sheet

Date: June 1, 1969

PRESENT ENROLLMENT

GRADE	PUPILS AND CLASSES	RIDGE VIEW	BROOK VIEW	PARK VIEW	NORTH VIEW	VALLEY VIEW	WEST VIEW
1	32.8 755 (23)			481 (15)	274 (8)		
2	31.5 599 (19)			372 (11)	227 (8)		
3	32.8 721 (22)			475 (14)	246 (8)		
4	34.5 586 (17)				228 (7)	358 (10)	
5	79+ 32.4 550 (17)		183 (6)			367 (11)	79
6	69+ 31.9 543 (17)		207 (7)			336 (10)	69
7	619						619
8	463						463
EMH	58 (2)			58 (2)			
OTHER							
TOTAL	5042		390 (13)	1386 (42)	975 (31)	1061 (31)	1230

Exhibit B

Valley View Schools - District #96 - Enrollment Summary Work Sheet

Date: June, 1970

A SAMPLE 45-15 CLASS SCHEDULE FOR 1970-71

GRADE	CLASSES	16 RIDGE VIEW	16 BROOK VIEW	40 PARK VIEW	30 NORTH VIEW	31 VALLEY VIEW	WEST VIEW
1	7 8 7 7	1 1 1 1	2 2 2 1	2 3 2 3	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	
2	6 6 6 5	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	2 2 2 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	
3	7 7 6 7	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 2	3 2 2 2	1 2 1 1	1 1 1 1	
4	5 5 6 6	1 1 1 1	0 0 0 1	3 3 4 3	1 1 1 1		
5	6 5 5 5				3 2 3 2	3 3 2 3	
6	5 5 5 6				2 2 2 3	3 3 3 3	
7							
8							
EMH							
KG	5 5 5 5	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	
TOTAL	41 41 40 41 123 rooms minimum	5 5 5 5 15 + 1	5 5 5 6 16 + 0	11 11 11 10 33 + 7	10 10 10 10 30 + 0	10 10 9 10 30 + 1	

Exhibit C

Valley View Schools - District #96 - Enrollment Summary Work Sheet

Date: June, 1970

GRADE	PUPILS AND CLASSES	RIDGE VIEW	BROOK VIEW	PARK VIEW	NORTH VIEW	VALLEY VIEW	WEST VIEW
1	957	132	231	330	132	132	
2	759	132	132	231	132	132	
3	891	132	165	297	165	132	
4	726	132	33	429	132		
5	693				330	363	
6	693				297	396	
7							
8							
EMH							
KG (FTE) OTHER	660	132	132	132	132	132	
TOTAL	5379 (163)	660 (20)	693 (21)	1419 (43)	1320 (40)	1287 (39)	

IV B (3) REPORT TO CURRICULUM MEETING

Thursday, September 18, 1969

CENSUS

The District-wide census has been completed. A structured procedure for up-dating, correcting, and adding to the census data is being set up.

Just as a carpenter's tools are of little value unless used with skill, the information gathered is of no value unless it is (1) correct, (2) readily available, and (3) meaningful. Try to look upon the census data (and all the other materials in the office files, for that matter) in this manner: The business of the schools is to educate the children; the paper-shuffling procedures and stacks of records in the office should be used to facilitate this objective of educating the children.

Incidentally, the census results were exceptionally good. The pilot census in College View got a 100% return; this rate of return is rarely achieved without unusual expense. In the rural areas a written description of the location of each house has been made. This information, together with the additional labeling of the large map in the District Office, should enable the transportation department to minimize bus route mileage (and co$t$).

The unusually rapid buildup in the Hampton Park and the Bolingbrook areas causes much uneasiness, however, forewarned is forearmed. It is just as wasteful for an alarmist to overbuild at the expense of other parts of the total school program and never have the children show up as it is for a procrastinator to have the swarms of children inundate the inadequate physical plants. Therefore, the collections of names,addresses, dates of birth and intentions toward public school attendance was an integral part of the preliminary planning for 45-15 schedules.

High school pupils were left out; pre-school children were tabulated and a projection study of enrollment will be made in the near future. Pupils now attending private schools (St. Andrews, Mount Assisi, etc.) were listed on the census sheets but not counted. In the event the parochial schools for some reason do not continue in operation, the information about their students could be extracted from the census data in a day or two.

Compumatics, Incorporated is presently the custodian of the census data. The data is being key punched onto cards for processing by machines. The cards are always hand carried and are for use by District #96 only.

RESEARCH DEPARTMENT AND COMPUMATICS

The Research Department is working with Compumatics in the following areas:

1) Determining pupil, teacher, and facility variables.
2) To determine outputs required.
3) To determine the necessary responsiveness of data processing and retrieval.
4) To define inputs and their sources.
5) To approximate the effective operating life of the information and systems.
6) To determine the flexibility that is necessary.

Systems design will include:

1) Tasks to be performed and their sequence.
2) Determination of machine functions and human functions.
3) Media for transmitting data.
4) Outside resources for development and operation.
5) Time factors.
6) Cost of development and operation.

Later areas to be worked on are:

1) Design of the scheduling system.
2) Program and mechanical operation.
3) Preparation of manuals of operation.
4) Supervision of development activities.
5) Implementation of the scheduling system.

COMMUNITY

A list of all community organizations and their officers or leaders has been made. Actually, other than the Parent-Teacher Organization (a merger of the PTA and the Community Club) there are no district-wide formal organizations. The Lions, the Jaycees, all the churches, the village boards, the sports activities - all are either centered in Hampton Park or in Bolingbrook. Outside of pupils at Lockport West,High School District #205 has no formal structure that has relevance to District #96.

Therefore, I maintain that the District 96 PTO is the only district-wide structured organization in Valley View School District #96.

Les Fenical is president. Pat Page is publicity chairman, (flyers, news releases, etc.) Membership is hard to recruit. One reason that membership is hard to recruit is that the local school district is doing a satisfactory job.

Every publisher knows that a good torso-in-a-trunk murder will sell more papers than the building of a new wing on the library. So too, a radical sex education program in the sixth grade will bring concerned parents to PTO meetings. Alas, the Valley View Schools do not have such a controversial program. Hence, little concern with PTO.

In the past many programs have been planned to educate and enlighten the school patrons. We have had programs relating to taxes, legislation, and community social problems- We've had judges and penologists and school administrators and housewives. We've had movies and panel discussions and displays. We've had amateur shows and fun fairs and book fairs. Refreshments are always served. The only thing that really brings out the adults is the community, though, is a Scout program or a band and choral program.

It's not the fault of the organization; it's not the fault of the publicity; the poor attendance is due to lack of real community interest in their own community.

IV B (4) PUPIL SCHEDULING UNDER THE 45-15 PLAN

(First report regarding the mailing out of schedules to households)

In the development and implementation of the 45-15 scheduling pattern for pupils, one signigicant point was to be the time when the families were notified of the attendance schedule for their children.

Briefly, census data was collected, refined at registration, crosschecked with school records and assembled into small neighborhood census packages. Building and room facilities were defined. Then groups of students were assigned to buildings considering the following:

Grade level

Distance from school

Time and mileage factors of bus transportation

Through streets in Hampton Park and Bolingbrook

The physical and psychological barrier of I-55

Patterns of future housing construction

Sidewalks and street crossing guards

A letter which was composed by the administrators of District #96 was printed with the family name and address on the letter. This gave a more personal touch to the letter. Included with the letter was a calendar showing the specific days of attendance for all children in that household who attend any of the six Valley View District #96 schools. Another sheet of paper listing major vacation periods and the beginning and ending of the school year was included. Samples of these materials were distributed to the board members and visitors at a previous school board meeting.

The letters to the parents were mailed immediately after Christmas for two reasons. Many industries start scheduling employee vacations in January. The post - Christmas mail volume is greatly diminished.

1. Secretaries and Principals at all six schools were given a written series of answers to anticipated questions. Inquiries, letters, and comments were directed to the Research Office at West View. The phone 838-7981 can be reached when the West View switchboard is not in operation.

   Mary Wilson and Lynette Gergovich gathered information about those who called.

2. Parents who requested a change of schedule were asked to write a letter to the building principal of the school which their youngest child attended. These letters were sent to Mr. Hermansen's office and then routed to the Research Office. A letter acknowledging the receipt of the request was sent.

3. Persons who had not completed a census form were mailed a census form, sheet of directions for filling out the census form, and a stamped envelope addressed to the Research Office.

4. Then returned letters were cross-checked with those households which reported they did not receive information.

   Address changes were made where necessary. New census data was reflected in the punch cards. Specific location for rural students was ascertained.

5. Tabulations of returned letters, letters written to us and phone calls received gave an all-over view of how successful the pupil scheduling and mailing of notices was. "Fine tuning" is a procedure which will continue until classes actually start.

MAILING

Pupil schedules mailed out	3,000
Returned -	
Family was in district but moved (new address proved)	87
Family was in district but moved (new address not known)	10
Unknown	19
Moved within district	12
Deceased	1
Error in address; not forwarded	1
Data processing header sheet mailed	5

ERRORS:

Wrong schedule	5
Two schedules (both the same)	2
Two schedules (different groups)	2

LETTERS

Letters: To Research Office

To request change in group assignment	Total	10
a) error (house faces different direction than shown on map)		1
b) want 3 month vacation		1
c) did not want summer vacation; want September vacation		1
d) father's vacation is not flexible; vacation doesn't fit in		4
e) want same schedule as playmates who live in different area		3

PHONE CALLS

To request Census Forms	
Not contacted by census taker	21
Filled out census form but didn't receive schedule	14
Children in Catholic Schools; want to enroll in Valley View Schools next year	3*
To seek information	
To confirm schedule	3
To request change	12
To request another calendar (first one lost)	2
To report incorrect address	1
To report change of address	2
To report incorrect spelling of name	1
To get explanation; unable to read English	1
To report schedule not received	16

(Many of these overlap. For instance, some callers who didn't receive schedules asked for a census sheet).

* Involves 11 children

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Students (in person)

To request calendar (didn't receive one)	2
To request calendar (threw away first one)	2
To request census form	4
To get information (family doesn't speak English)	1
To report that schedule not received	4

Parents (in person)

To change children from Catholic school to Valley View schools	1**
To request schedule change	1

** - Involves 3 children

OTHER

Two pupils reported to the counselor that their household received a calendar, but that the calendar was thrown away because they thought it was only for pupils at Valley View School on Naperville Road.

Counselors report that students are not seriously disturbed by the rescheduling of the next school year. One common criticism of year-round school scheduling - that is, the children will be upset - seems to be a myth. Some students at West View still do not have a clear understanding of the 45-15 Plan. An assembly period for all 8th graders and another for all 7th graders has been discussed. Even though the 8th graders will graduate in June, the information that will be passed on to siblings and parents would be worth the time spent in preparing the assembly.

A TV presentation has also been proposed.

All letters received requesting group changes were courteous. Several expressed approval of the 45-15 Plan. Likewise, all who phoned with one exception were courteous, and many said that they were in favor of the plan. From all indications the parents understand the 45-15 scheduling plan. Area of concern to callers were:

1) The high school district is in financial difficulties; the parachial schools are in financial difficulties.

2) Too many people are moving into the area.

3) The land developers should be forced to donate land and buildings to the school district.

These problems are not the fault of the 45-15 Plan.

The last message on the Dial-Into-Education asked parents to call 838-7981 (Research Office), if they had questions regarding the family's schedule. All other school offices refer callers to 838-7981 for matters relating to pupil scheduling.

IV B (5) PUPIL SCHEDULING (FINE-TUNING)

ERRORS

An analyses of mistakes was made. First of all the calendar which was mailed to families did not indicate when the 1970-71 school year ended. Various items of literature explained how four 45 day sessions constituted one school year, but this was not mentioned on the printed calendar. Several parents and several children expressed concern because the children in Group A had more class attendance days shown on their calendar. It was explained to these families and children that the days shown after the 4th 45 day period would be regular attendance days, but would be in the next school year. Those pupils completing 8th grade of course would not be in the next school year under the 45-15 Plan in District #96.

A few families had been incorrectly assigned to attendance schedules and/or buildings because of miscoding or key punch errors. (Explanation of miscoding; assignment census number 326 when the correct census number is 328. Example of key punch error; transposing of numbers such as 107 for 017.)

Some movement of families went undetected until June 10th when pupils were notified of building assignments. For example, two families moved from the Colony of Beaconridge (group B) to Indian Oaks (group D). Children from both areas are bus riders. When the families moved the children did not notify the schools of change in address; the children merely caught another bus and got off at the same building and attended the same classes which they had previously been attending. When these families were notified of the school which they were to attend by means of a letter from the building principal, they soon observed that they were on a schedule different from the rest of the neighborhood. Families so misscheduled were rescheduled according to their new address.

As other families changed their place of residences within the school district, the records in the Research Office were changed and new calendars were mailed when appropriate.

Census Unit 146 - families from 11 units grouped into one unit. At the time the census was taken and the individual houses were being assigned, a group of 50 houses were under construction. Later as more detailed census units descriptions were added the new census units overlap areas which had previously been designated CU146. These had not become apparent until detailed print out sheets were made. Five people detected the fact that their families did not seem to have the same group assigmment as the rest of the neighborhood. When these five families called the Research Office, the address was checked, the records were changed, and the correct calendar was mailed. Later, a letter was mailed to those remaining families incorrectly assigned admitting that an error had been made and placing the family with the correct calendar. Because of the previous notification of group assignment and because of the short interval between the rescheduling and the summer vacation plans of some of the families, the option of keeping the original (but incorrect) assignment was given.

Census Unit 183, an entire block on one side of the street assigned to the B group. Census Unit 183 was made up of all the houses on one side of the street for one block on Hiskory Avenue. The opposite side of the street, and the parallel census unit areas for several blocks in each direction were in group A. Having this small island of families on a different group schedule violated the concept of neighborhood unity.

The decision was made to change all the people as a group or to let the people stay the same as the group. A letter was sent to each resident explaining the situation and the consequences of each choice. All families were changed to the correct group.

IV B (a) CHANGES IN GROUP ASSIGNMENT

In discussions and explanations of the 45-15 Plan a common question from the audience is "Can a family change group assignment?" The answer given was "Some provision has been made for changes in group assignment." The answer was nebulous because projections could not be made as to the number and type which could or would be permitted.

Family assignments to attendance groups were mailed to families on December 26, 1969. Secretaries at each of the schools were given a sheet of answers to anticipated questions. Those persons requesting a change in group assignment were asked to write a letter to the principal of the building where their youngest child attended. All letters were forwarded to the Research Office and a letter acknowledging the receipt of the request was sent back. A total of 24 requests for changing of groups was received before Easter vacation. All these request were granted automatically. Each person was called and told that his request had been allowed. A confirming letter and a new calendar were mailed. Records in the Research Office were changed to reflect the change in group assignment. Two of the request were from the rural area, but a bus runs past these two houses on every schedule (A,B,C, & D). No change in group assignment caused a transportation problem.

After Easter vacation, a few other request for change were received. These were handled on an individual basis by means of telephone conversations. The requests were either granted or arrangements were made with the building principals involved for the people to be absent for short periods of time.

Beginning June 1, 1970, the policy toward group changes was to refer all request to Mr. Gove, Assistant Superintendent, who would arrange an appointment, discuss the situation, and making decisions. Several changes were made under this policy because of the circumstances of the family. Several changes were made in order to improve some of the technical aspects of pupil scheduling (example; Several families want to use the neighborhood where the babysitter lives as the address for the census unit designation . The children could leave from the babysitter's home in the morning, go to school, and return to the babysitter's home after school). (Example: It was discovered that one primary child was scheduled to be bused from north of the Interstate to Park View School. Since only one child was involved the master schedule was changed so that we would have a rule "No child below the fifth grade is bused to the other side of the Interstate."

Several requests to change the assignment to a school building were received. In two cases it made little difference to the class load and the request was made because of strong parental preference. In several cases the request were not made because of the class size balance.

As new people move into the community the children will be assigned to a group according to where the family lives. Problems of making up work or vacation plans will be handled by the principal of each school where the children attend.

Note: In meetings with parents in the community the parents were assured that all children in the same family would be scheduled on the same group assignment. Thus, all siblings would attend school on the same days and have the same days of vacation. All children would not attend the same school building, but this has not been the situation before in Valley View District #96.

Several mothers insisted that their family would want (or would insist on) different schedules for the various children in the same household. The consequences of a scheduling arrangement such as this were carefully explained.

Even having children on two different group assignments would mean that the family would not have any 15 class day vacation periods. One woman with four children wanted one child on each schedule. In this way she would always have one child at home and three children attending classes, and the arrangement would rotate every 15 class days.

Administrators then modified the scheduling policy so that "all children in the same family would be on the same schedule unless the parents request otherwise."

After all children were scheduled, no parents requested an arrangement which would put children in the same household on different schedules.

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY REGARDING

45-15 GROUP SCHEDULE VARIATIONS

A. The 45-15 Attendance Group assignments are made by the school district so that the best quality education is available to all children in the district.

B. Compliance with the assigned schedule is a requirement of each family under the compulsory attendance laws of the state.

C. The school district will consider variation from the assigned schedule on the basis of individual requests:

1. Principals may continue to informally excuse a pupil from attendance for a family trip when the trip is considered to be of exceptional educational merit. Example: a trip to New York devoted to visits to museums, art galleries, historical sites, etc. In these cases the principal, teacher, parent and pupil may make special arrangements to cover missed classroom work.

   The principal may not, however, make allowances for family vacation plans that are primarily recreational. Example: staying home to swim and play ball at local parks. Example: visiting relatives in order to act as a babysitter.

   The five tests which will be applied by the principal in deciding whether or not to excuse a pupil from attending are:

   a. The activity which prevents classroom attendance and the arrangements between the teacher, parent and pupil for fulfilling learning requirements for the period of non-attendance are sufficient to be considered fully equivalent to classroom attendance during the period.

   b. The special arrangements made can in no way be disruptive to the class, morale of other pupils or their families, nor can they infringe on the rights of other pupils to have full attention from their teacher.

c. In no case will outside activities be considered an alternative to or replacement for the regular school curriculum. The purpose of this policy is to allow for additional enrichment opportunities that may become available.

d. Can this activity be scheduled only at this time rather than during one of the scheduled vacation periods?

e. A structure of prior planning for learning activities during the pupil absence must be evident.

2. In the case of certain family situations, special arrangements have been made for pupil attendance. Two examples are:

   a. Pupils temporarily residing with a friend or relative within the district caused the pupil to attend a different school or make special transportation arrangements for a short period.

   b. Families moving into or out of the district very near to the end of a school term have arranged to have their children complete the year in their former schools.

   The school district considers it an obligation, if at all possible, to facilitate these special arrangements. In all cases, the welfare of the pupil is the prime determining factor.

IV C PROGRESS SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 8, 1970

The last day of the 1969-70 school year was June 9th. On this day, Valley View District #96, all pupils in grades 1 - 5 received a final report card for the year and a notice of a building assignment for the next school year.

The notice of the building assignment accomplished several things. First, the notice drew attention to the starting date and hence, the group assignment for the family for the next school year. In some cases, the specific room and the specific teacher assignment were given. Not all the room or personnel assignments had been worked out in time to have the information printed on the cards. In a few cases, the teacher requested that the pupils in her class not be notified that they would be in her class for the next school year.

Copies of the building assignment for the next school year also aided in the transfer of pupil records.

Pupils who were completing Grade Six were previously scheduled into classes at West View Junior High School, by the counselors from West View, who visited the schools and had the pupils complete course selection sheets for the Seventh Grade.

All pupils completing the Seventh Grade continued with the Eighth Grade at West View Junior High School. All pupils completing the Eighth Grade, of course, will continue in another school district. Almost all Eighth Grade graduates will attend Lockport Twp. High School District 205, however, a few pupils from Valley View School District #96 will go to Naperville High School, and a few pupils will go to private schools.

Ten days before each group was to begin classes, the pupils in that attendance group, who were to enter Grades 1, and pupils to enter Kindergarten, received a letter from the principal of the building which they were to attend. This letter noted that beginning this year, there were no book rental fees or work book fees for elementary pupils. It gave the bus route and time schedule, and pick up point for pupils who were bus riders. Also included was a reminder that all pupils beginning Kindergarten or first grade for the first time must have a birth certificate, and all pupils beginning Grade Four must have a physical examination, including a dental examination, on a form perscribed by the state. Also, it was noted that all children beginning school for the first time must have a shot record, a record of immunizations.

Much publicity was given to the notification of parents. Information was furnished to the local and regional newspapers. Messages were recorded on the Dial-Into-Education, a 24-hour information service, and secretaries at each of the school buildings were given detailed explanations of what to tell parents about the scheduling procedures. During the period of time from June 9th to June 24th, a special effort was made in the buildings to handle amy building maintenance or housekeeping projects. On Monday, June 29th, Governor Ogilvie came to West View Junior High School to sign an educational bill providing for year-round school. Several Chicago Television Stations, several large metropolitian newspapers, and several radio stations covered this event.

The four week days immediately before the beginning of school, teacher institutes were held for the beginning for the 1970-71 school year. The beginning teaching assignments on June 30th were June 24th, June 25th, June 26th, and June 29th. For those teachers who began classroom teaching with the start of the B Group, teacher institute days were July 15, July 16, July 17, and July 20. Those teachers who began classroom instruction in August had teacher institute days on August 5, 6, 7, and 10th. Pupils came for Group C classes on August 11th. The last group of staff members came for their institute on August 26, 27, 28, and 31, and Group D pupils began classes on September 1st.

On June 30th, 1970, the first group of pupils came through the doorway according to their schedules, Group A entered the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan. School bus operations was relatively normal, cafeteria operation was normal, building maintenance and housekeeping was very good, exterior ground maintenance was comparable to normal school activity time.

The news media were given the opportunity to circulate through the buildings, to talk with the teachers and staff members, parents and pupils. The most significant part of the school day, other than the change in the school calendar, was the fact that it was the hottest day of the year. After the first day of operation, several parents complained to the district administrators about the utilization of classrooms at Park View School which were not air-conditioned. The parents felt that air-conditioning was a necessity on extreamly hot days. The administrators met with a group of mothers, representatives from the press also talked with some of the mothers. A decision was made to install fans to circulate the air in the hallways and in the rooms which weren't air-conditioned.

A Registration Center was set up at West View Junior High School to facilitate the entrance of new families into the school district. This Registration Center was set up on a pilot basis, information was furnished to the local and regional newspapers, and the Dial-Into-Education messages urged callers to refer newcomers to the community to the Enrollment Center immediately in the event that the children were scheduled for school during the summer.

On July 21st, Group B pupils began attending; at this point half of all the pupils of Valley View District #96 were attending school. All normal school activities - playground, library, music lessons, mid-morning milk, art classes were operating smoothly.

On August 11th, pupils in Group C began attending class. At this point three-fourths of the pupils in District #96 were in school, while one group was on vacation. In informal talks with administrators, classroom teachers, and pupils the biggest noticeable change was the fact that the hallways seemed to be full. Whereas before, with only two groups, or with only one group in attendance, the hallways did not seem to be as full. The school operation was described at this time by John Lukancic, Assistant Superintendent, in charge of curriculum and personnel, as being "Unbelieveably smooth". Cafeteria operation was smooth; attendance did not deviate greatly from averages last school year.

Some parental objection to the transportation policy was voiced. The main concerns were; that pupils had to walk to school in areas where there were no sidewalks, that pupils had to walk excessive distances as required by school board policy, and that pupils did not always attend the school which was closest to their home. These problems are not primarily the fault of the 45-15 scheduling. In fact, these problems were partly alleviated by the 45-15 Plan. On August 15th, a three part referendum was presented to the voters; all three parts were passed. This is especially significant because of the trend of referendums in this area.

IV D. BUDGET AND FISCAL OPERATION

A detailed fiscal analysis for operation of District #96 under the 45-15 scheduling system is not available. The school district has been operating under the 45-15 Plan for several months; this is insufficient time to make any definitive statements regarding differences in costs.

Accounting concerns itself primarily with recording the past financial transactions of a business concern--in this case a school district. The cost figures are projected into the future based on past experiences and based on realistic projections of pupil growth.

To repeat, the 45-15 Plan uses the existing physical plant one third more days of the year. The 45-15 Plan by itself does not add more days of instruction for the pupil. It does not increase the per-day pay of the teacher. It does not raise the monthly salary of administrators. It does not increase other school services, such as busing, speech correction, counseling, etc. Increases in total costs are due to increases in number of pupils.

On September 14, 1970, a budget of $6,047,273 for the 1970-71 school year was approved by the District #96 Board of Education. This figure is an increase of $81,372 over the previous year's budget of $5,955,901.

Enrollment as of the end of the 1969-70 school year was 5526. The enrollment as of September 14, 1970, was 6646 in four groups. Projections indicate that the total enrollment on June 30, 1971, will be 7200.

A yearly increase of $81,372 to provide educational services for an additional 1674 pupils would indicate a significant cost savings per pupil.

Salaries for staff members have gone up and will continue to go up. This is due to the addition of many new staff members, inflation, and the attraction of more fully qualified staff members.

The total district costs have grown rapidly and will continue to grow. This is because of the tremendous increase in enrollment.

Simply stated, more children equal more cost. The tax levy for Valley View District #96 filed September, 1969, has produced the following tax rates and tax percentages. These rates were used in computing the tax bills that are payable in 1970.

	Tax Rates	Tax Percentages
Educational	1.540	.6353
Building	.250	.1031
Transportation	.120	.0495
IMRF	.041	.0169
Liability Ins.	.012	.0050
Special Ed.	.020	.0083
Bldg. B & I	.441	.1819
	2.424	1.0000

IV E. LEGAL ASPECTS

"Monday Holiday Bill" -

In the design of the school calendar consideration was provided for mandatory school closings to conform to Section 24-2 of The School Code as amended by the 76th Illinois General Assembly. This section becomes effective on January 1, 1971.

These days are required school closings:

New Year's Day - January 1

Independence Day - July 4

Christmas Day - December 25

Thanksgiving Day - fourth Thursday in November

Good Friday - the Friday before Easter Sunday

Lincoln's Birthday - First Monday in February

Memorial Day - last Monday in May

Labor Day - first Monday in September

Columbus Day - second Monday in October

Veterans Day - fourth Monday in October

The Illinois "Monday Holiday Bill" is the same as the federal "Monday Holiday Bill" except Washington's Birthday (the third Monday in February) is not a required school closing day and Lincoln's Birthday is a required school closing day.

All Saturdays and Sundays are required school closing days.

The following is a brief summary of the Compulsory Attendance Law (Article 26) of the School Code of Illinois. This is for review only. For specific application of the law refer to the complete School Code and recent legislative revisions.

> Whoever has custody or control of a child between the ages 7 and 16 shall cause such child to attend public school in the district where the child resides during the regular school term. The regular school term is defined by resolution of the School Board.
>
> Exceptions to the attendance requirements are:
>
> 1. Children attending private or parochial school.
> 2. Children physically or mentally unable to attend.
> 3. Children temporarily excused for cause by their principal or teacher.
> 4. Children excused in order to be employed.
> 5. Children attending confirmation classes.
>
> Further, even if a child is under age 7 or over age 16, if he is enrolled in grades 1 - 12 he must attend. (There is no attendance requirement for kindergarten.)

It is the responsibility of the school board, district superintendent, teachers and local truant officer to know whether all children are in school that belong there. If a person who has custody or control of a child is found not to be keeping the child in regular attendance that person is given a notice by the truant officer demanding that he comply with the law. If the person then does not comply he is subject to fine or imprisonment by the circuit court.

METHOD OF DISTRIBUTING GENERAL STATE AID TO DISTRICTS ON AN APPROVED TWELVE MONTH CALENDAR

✓

House Bill 1525 was passed by the Seventy-Sixth General Assembly and was signed into law by the Governor on August 18, 1969. The law authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction to determine the General State Aid apportionment to districts that operate on an approved twelve month calendar in accordance with Section 18.8 of The School Code of Illinois as near as may be applicable. The following procedure will be followed in a school district which operates on an approved twelve month calendar during 1970-1971.

I. General State Aid payments in 1970-1971 will be computed on the following basis:

   1. The best six months' average daily attendance for the 1969-1970 school year.

   2. The 1968 assessed valuation of the school district.

II. For the 1970-1971 school year, attendance shall be maintained for each tract. In order to compute the average daily attendance for a month, the total days of attendance shall be divided by the number of days school was in session for that month. The average daily attendance for the best six months of the fiscal year will be the initial basis for the 1970-1971 State Aid computation. Inasmuch as approximately seventy-five percent of the pupils are enrolled at any time, the best six months' average daily attendance will be multiplied by four and divided by three to determine the district's weighted best six months of average daily attendance. The average daily attendance for pupils in grades 9 - 12 will be multiplied by 1.25 in the State Aid calculation.

✓

III. General State Aid will be distributed to approved school districts in the following manner:

1. The first General State Aid payment may be vouchered to the State Auditor immediately following the final approval of the Common School Fund appropriation in an amount equal to approximately one-sixth of the district's General State Aid Claim entitlement for 1970-1971.

2. Beginning September 1970, payments will be made to approve districts in the same manner as General State Aid payments are made to all districts in the State of Illinois; these payments shall reflect any prior reimbusement.

House Bill 529 -

House Bill 529 was passed by both the House and the Senate of the 76th Illinois General Assembly. However the bill was vetoed by the Honorable Richard B. Ogilvie, Governor of the State of Illinois.

Governor Ogilvie's message to the Members of the House of Representatives of the 76th General Assembly dated October 13, 1969 reads,

> I herewith return, without my approval, House Bill 529 entitled, "An act to amend Sections 10-19.1 and 10.20.12 of 'The School Code', approved March 18, 1961, as amended."
>
> This bill provided for changes in the requirements under the full year school plan. Such changes were recommended for the purpose of encouraging further use of the full year school plan. However, during the legislative process, a non-germane amendment distorted the original intent of this bill.
>
> This amendment removed the option of any school district to operate only one or more schools within the district on a full year school plan. The effect of this change is to require that implementation of a full year school plan must be on a district wide

basis. This change is unfortunate in that it would inhibit experimentation with the full year school plan on a school-by-school basis in the large urban school districts which are most likely to find the need for and advantage in such a full year school plan.

For this reason I veto and withhold my approval from House Bill 529.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard B. Ogilvie
Governor

Senate Bill 1438 -

This bill was introduced on April 22, 1970 by Senator Gilbert to amend Chapter 122, Paragraphs 10-19.1 and 10-20.12 of The School Code to provide for a full school year plan for school districts and requirements for pupil attendance and number of days a teacher shall be required to teach.

This bill was signed by Governor Ogilvie on the stage of the gymnasium at West View Junior High School in Valley View District #96 on June 29, 1970.

Sec. 10.20.12. School year -- School age.) To establish and keep in operation in each year during a school term of at least the minimum length required by Section 10-19, a sufficient number of free schools for the accomodation of all persons in the district over the age of 6 and under 21 years, and to secure for all such persons the right and opportunity to an equal education in such schools; provided that children who will attain the age of 6 years by December 1 after the first day of a school term shall be entitled to attend school upon the commencement of such term, and that in schools having mid-year promotions those children attaining the age of 6 years by May 1 after the first day of the second semester shall be entitled to attend school upon the commencement of such semester: ~~provided, further, that~~ In any school district operating on a full year school ~~quarterly~~ basis children who will attain age 6 within 30 days after the commencement of a ~~quarterly~~ term shall be entitled to attend school upon the commencement of such term. The school district may, by resolution of its board, allow for a full year school plan.

AN ACT to amend Sections 10-19.1 and 10-20.12 of "The School Code", approved March 18, 1961, as amended.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 1. Sections 10-19.1 and 10-20.12 of "The School Code", approved March 18, 1961, as amended, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 10-19.1. Full year school ~~Three-calendar-quarter~~ plan.) Any school district may, by resolution of its board, operate one or more schools within the district on a full year school plan ~~calendar-of-12 months-or-235-days-of-actual-pupil-attendance-computable-under-Section-18-8~~ approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Any board which operates under this Section shall devise a plan so that a student's required attendance in school shall be for a minimum term of 180 days of actual attendance, including not more than 4 institute days, during a 12 month period, but shall not exceed 185 days. Under such plan, ~~no-student shall-be-required-to-attend-class-for-more-than-3-consecutive-quarters and~~ no teacher shall be required to teach more than 185 days ~~3-consecutive quarters~~. ~~Any-board-which-operates-under-this-section-shall-devise-a method-of apportioning-its-students-so-that-each-grade-affected-thereby will-have at-all-times-an-enrollment-of-approximately-75%-of-the-students eligible to-attend~~. A calendar of 180 days may be established with the approval of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Teacher Resignations -

In the opinion of the Assistant Legal Advisor to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, a teacher submitting a resignation would be required to notify the Board of Education at least sixty days prior to the beginning of the school term for which the teacher is contracted. Thus,

If a contract begins ------	Must resign by
June 24, 1970	April 25, 1970
July 15, 1970	May 16, 1970
August 5, 1970	June 6, 1970
August 26, 1970	June 28, 1970

IV F. EFFECT ON COMMUNITY

POLICE

Sociologists and law enforcement officials generally agree that in both metropolitan and suburban areas the crime rates for juveniles is significantly higher in summer than during other parts of the year. This is attributable to several factors one of which is the fact that most children are not attending school. No studies have been done in Valley View District #96 regarding crime rate of the children enrolled in the six Valley View Schools.

LABOR UNIONS

The majority of male employees living within District 96 are bluecollar workers. Approximately 10% of the men are truck drivers. Many workers work in the building trades or in businesses which are closely allied with the building trades--lumber yards, short haul trucking, etc.

Building trades employment tends to be seasonal. From the beginning of May till the end of September, employers depend on the good weather in order to accomplish exterior work in home and highway construction. Favorable weather is necessary for pouring all types of cements, asphalt mixes, and mortars for bricks and stone and for earth-moving, trenching, drainage projects, etc. The employers can ill afford to have their employees take vacations during the late spring, summer, and early autumn months. In fact, many employers provide six day work weeks with frequent overtime during the week

As weather becomes colder and wetter, employees are restricted in the amount of exterior work they can do, and the weekly workload drops off drastically. Short work weeks and layoffs in the middle of the winter are not uncommon. Requests for vacation between Thanksgiving and Easter vacation are usually granted readily in the building trades industries in northern Illinois.

From the employees point of view, he is familiar with the work available during the various seasons of the year and has conditioned himself to "work all he can while he can."

When the 45-15 Plan was explained to a group of community leaders at West View Junior High School, members of the audience were asked for their reaction to the scheduling system. One man observed that in 13 years he had never taken a vacation during the summer with his children and that he was looking forward to a vacation in the winter or the spring with his entire family.

No attempt was made to secure an endorsement from any local or regional labor union for several reasons. The employees from District #96 work in a wide range of geographic job sites within 30 minute driving radius of their home. Also because many labor union locals have members from outside District #96, it was felt that to ask them to evaluate the plan would have seemed presumptious since there are many other school districts represented by these members.

CHURCH INSTRUCTION

About 70% of Will County is Catholic. The ratio in Romeoville-Bolingbrook and the immediate rural area is approximately the same. Romeoville has a Catholic grade school for Grades 1-6. Bolingbrook has a Catholic school for Grades 1-5. These schools remained on the traditional nine-month calendar.

When the family schedules were sent home to parents, eleven families with a total of 23 children elected to put their children in one of the Catholic schools rather than in one of the District #96 schools. However, approximately the same number of families and children who had previously indicated that they planned on having children in a private school decided to attend one of the Valley View Schools.

Conferences were held with school administrators and board members of the Catholic schools. Bus service is still provided for some of the parochial students via the District #96 buses. District #96 still administers the Title II funds for St. Andrews.

A dual enrollment program involving seventh and eighth graders from St. Andrew's school and West View Junior High had to be terminated. Previously one group of St. Andrew's pupils had attended West View in the morning for classes and then returned to St. Andrews for afternoon classes. Another group had attended classes at St. Andrews in the morning and then came to West View Junior High in the afternoon for classes. Dual enrollment students were welcomed and invited to West View athletic events, social functions, and extracurricular activities.

In the Bolingbrook and Romeoville areas it has been traditional for Catholic pupils attending public schools to attend one weekly session of CCD instruction plus a week or two of all-day instruction during the summer.

Children of Protestant families attended traditional "Church School" or "Bible School" or summer instruction for one or two weeks in the local churches or in the Lockport or Joliet or Naperville churches.

Questions arose for parents of District #96 pupils who were concerned with finding time for a week or two of religious instruction during the year. There are several solutions to the problem of finding time for these church schools. Since the families know and receive a calendar well in advance, they can make the church leaders aware of the summer vacation schedules of the various children. Instead of having all the children present at one time for two weeks during the summer the church could schedule one fourth of the children for two weeks and repeat this four times. Naturally some churches will not have the quantities of school children and will not have the staff to carry out a program such as this, but the larger denominations would probably find this an adequate solution.

LONG TERM ILLNESS BY A PUPIL

In discussions with parent groups this question frequently aame up: "What would happen if a child would miss an extended period of school due to a serious illness or injury (for instance, a broken leg)?" Any large school district has a case or two each year where pupils are forced to miss weeks of school. Each case is handled individually. If the teacher, parent, and building principal feel that the pupil would benefit by being moved to the next grade at the end of the school year, then a child can be moved along with his class and allowed to make up work by means of homework, homebound instruction, or independent study.

For example, assume a child assigned to the D Group suffers an injury on September 1, 1970, and misses 30 class days of school and assume that he is unable to make all this up through home study. How can the pupil make up the equivalent number of class days? When the student comes back to school, he can be placed in a class with children from his own neighborhood in the D Group for 15 class days. Then when the D Group is finished, he can be moved to the C Group for 45 days, then to the B Group for 45 days. After he finishes the 45 days on the B Group, the boy has completed 30 class days to compensate for the class days which he missed.

Naturally the pupil loses out on two 15 class day vacations, but it must be remembered he had a 30 class day vacation immediately after he suffered his injury.

No claims are made that the 45-15 scheduling plan will provide for all cases of loss of class time by a pupil, but the 45-15 Plan can do as much as the traditional school year in providing flexibility for making up class days.

The six building principals were given authority to provide for make up work in a variety of ways.

In the past it has always been the experience that some pupils do miss up to three weeks in the fall or in the spring because of movement into and out of different school districts.

Cases where a pupil would gain additional days of classroom instruction before moving are also possible, but if a child repeats a few weeks of a grade level when he moves into a new school, most teachers and parents would not feel that this would be harmful. As a matter of fact, several teachers feel that this might be beneficial in that it would make the transition a little smoother.

HIGH SCHOOLS

Almost all pupils who finish Grade 8 from District #96 go to Lockport Township High School District 205 for Grade Nine. A few pupils in the upper-most northwest corner of the district are in the Naperville High School District. A few pupils choose to attend Joliet Catholic or St. Francis Academy in Joliet. The 45-15 Plan was explained and discussed thoroughly with administrators from District 205. Their primary interest was that pupils who finished Grade Eight would finish before the Ninth Grade pupils began in District 205. No matter to which group the family is assigned, all pupils who finish Grade Eight in District 96 will finish before the traditional starting date of the high schools in this area.

NOMENCLATURE

In the early development of the 45-15 Plan, the four groups of pupils were called "Tracks". The term "track" was frequently used interchangeably with the term "tract" in various news media.

In 1960-1965, in Valley View School on Naperville Road, all the children in Grades Six, Seven, and Eight, were grouped into "tracks" according to achievement test scores, teacher recommendation, and report card grades. Track A pupils were labeled high, Track B pupils were called average, and Track C pupils were called low. Placement of pupils into Tracks was obvious because each track (three homerooms of approximately 110 pupils) followed a different tract (n.-a system or area of learning).

To avoid confusion the term "attendance group" or "Group" was suggested as a designation for the pupils in A, B, C, and D. The terms still continue to be used interchangeably, but the children and adults in the Valley View District understand that the families are grouped geographically, not according to ability or achievement.

TEACHER-PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

School board members, administrators, parents and the teachers themselves were concerned about the professional growth opportunities that would be afforded to teachers working under the 45-15 Plan. Previously all teachers had been required to complete three hours of graduate work every five years; this requirement was suspended by the Board of Education. Several large universities offering evening and Saturday graduate courses in education are within one hour's driving time of District 96. In addition, universities offer graduate extension courses in LaGrange, Joliet, and Aurora.

Then, one may ask how does a dentist or lawyer or engineer maintain his professional status through the completion of formal course work? The answer is, of course, that these professional people must schedule their course work well in advance and must be willing to forgo a possible temporary loss of income.

For the summer of 1970 those teachers who were completing their requirements for a master's degree were readily granted a contract which would not require them to teach during the summer of 1970.

A ready supply of qualified substitutes is anticipated to replace those teachers who wish to take advantage of one day workshops, three day institutes, etc., during the school year.

MINOR SHORTCOMINGS OF THE 45-15 PLAN IN ASKING FOR FEEDBACK AND PROFESSIONAL OPINION FROM PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND BUSINESSMEN

The point was invariably brought out that this was a break with traditions. However, few people viewed a break with tradition as being a shortcoming. There's no doubt that the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan is different. However, breaking with tradition is not always undesirable and many times is desirable and necessary. The traditional school year would not allow the pupils in District 96 to attend classes for a full day for an entire school year.

The 45-15 Plan gets more "work" out of inanimate objects--buildings, playgrounds, cafeteria equipment, projectors, school buses, books, etc.

1) However, textbooks have traditionally been written for the nine-month school year beginning in September and ending in May. A sixth grade reading book begins with stories about the fall of the year, moves into poems about Thanksgiving, and then progresses through Christmas literature, stories about Washington and Lincoln, and ends with stories about summer time.

What about those students who started on June 30 in Grade six with a reading book such as this? In the middle of the summer they read about leaves changing and before Labor Day they are reading the poems about Thanksgiving. Textbooks may be written that way, but any knowledgeable teacher can adjust her yearly course outline so that the class does not progress through the book in the exact order in which the book is written.

Any curriculum which is so inflexible that it can not be adjusted from a traditional nine month school year to a school year of four 45-day learning segments is in dire need of revision.

In one working day a department head should be able to make a detailed syllabus of the major work to be completed by the typical pupil in his department in one year.

2) The second minor shortcoming of the 45-15 Plan is the fact that many pupils will be moving into the district, and since pupils are scheduled according to geographical areas, there is the possibility that pupils new to the district may lose a period of schooling.

This loss of class attendance days is recognized as a minor problem.

The maximum number of class hours lost by a pupil moving into the district into an area where the other pupils have already begun classes is much less than the class hours which would be lost if the traditional school year were utilized with half-day sessions.

PROVIDING INFORMATION TO THE COMMUNITY

Despite the fact that a deliberate effort was made to keep all parts of the community well informed about activities in District 96 schools, from time to time it was evident that isolated citizens were poorly informed or misinformed.

A 24-hour per day dial-a-message information service called, "Dial-Into-Education" has been used by the school district for several years. Two minute messages which are changed about every week tell about different aspects of school operation. People in the community are urged to dial this number by means of space filler blocks in the local newspapers, blurps in news letters from the PTO and from building principals, and a notation on each menu which goes home. A brightly colored emergency information card was distributed to all parents in the community. This card, to be hung by the telephone, gives the phone numbers of various police and fire units, the numbers of each school buildings, and the Dial-Into-Education number.

While this dialing message by itself furnishes a lot of information to residents of the community, it also serves to indicate that the school administrators are making an effort to keep the citizens in the community informed.

Frequently mention is made of the fact that visitors are welcome at school board meetings. School board members and administrators take the time to furnish detailed information and to answer questions for the news reporters at school board meetings. These efforts over a long period of time have done much to build up community confidence in the District 96 school board and administrators.

The superintendent and other school administrators have always been willing to go out into the community in the evenings to talk to community organizations and small groups of citizens who gather together to listen to representatives of the Valley View Schools.

As an example of how the administration plans ahead to answer questions and provide information to citizens in the community, each school secretary was provided with a list of answers to the 4 most commonly asked questions for which they would receive after the family calendars were mailed home. It is significant to note that the questions were anticipated, answers decided on, and secretaries notified before any parents called in.

45-15 TELEPHONE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTION #1.	What is this I just got in the mail?
Answer #1.	The 45-15 Plan is what District #96 will be operating next school year. We are going on this plan because we will be very overcrowded.
Answer #2.	On January 15th at 8:00 p.m. at West View Junior High School, there will be a Parent-Teacher Organization meeting where the 45-15 Plan will be explained. Would you please come?
Answer #3.	If you would like to get ten or more people together for a coffee klatch, the district will send representatives to your home to explain this plan to the people you assemble. Call 838-7981 if you would like to have a coffee klatch.
Answer #4.	If you would please Dial-Into-Education 838-0699, you will hear a brief explanation of the 45-15 Plan.
QUESTION #2.	I want to change the group my family is in.
Answer.	If you would please document in writing why you must have your family changed to another group and include in your documentation your name and address, the names of all children in your family that will be in school next year, and send this letter to the principal of the school where your youngest child attends this year, the district will review your request and you will receive a reply before mid April of 1970.

QUESTION #3. I did not receive a letter or anything. What do I do?

Answer. Call 838-7981 and give your name and address. A census form will be mailed to you that you will have to fill out and return in the enclosed stamped envelope. You will be notified then by mail what group your family is in.

Any parent who is very dissatisfied with the 45-15 Plan should talk with the assistant principal or principal. If the assistant principal or principal can not satisfy the parent, the parent should be directed to call the Superintendent's Office at 838-7506.

QUESTION #4. I received two letters with two different group assignments. What do I do?

Answer. Call 838-7981. Give the secretary your name and address, the first names of all of the children that will be attending school next year, and the two different group assignments you received in the mail. The district will then notify you by mail after January 1st as to your correct assignment. We are sorry for this inconvenience.

The telephone number 838-7981 was in the Research Office at West View Junior High School (now operating as the Research and Development Office and located at Park View School). From January 5, 1970, when teachers and pupils came back from Christmas vacation until June 9, 1970, when the 1969-70 school year was over, every person who called this number to ask about any aspect of pupil scheduling or the 45-15 Plan talked with Mr. Patrick Page. During this time hundreds of calls were received - mostly to report minor corrections such as the spelling of a child's name or to ask questions about specific building assignments. Few callers were hostile or negative after they understood how the 45-15 scheduling worked.

Between January 5, 1970, and the day when school started, June 30, 1970, seven callers were referred to Mr. James R. Gove, Assistant Superintendent because they indicated that they could not accept the decisions or information which they had received from Mr. Page or one of the building principals. Four parents made appointments with Mr. Gove and Mr. Page, came in for a personal meeting, and discussed their particular problem.

In summary, once the community as a whole and parents as individuals understood the 45-15 scheduling plan and once they understood the rationale behind the rescheduled school year (that is, to get more and better utilization out of the physical plant)the community accepted and cooperated with the school district.

V-A. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF OTHER COMMONLY-DISCUSSED YEAR-ROUND SCHOOL PLANS

Staggered Quarter

The student body is divided into four equal groups. Each group goes to school for nine months and then has three months vacation. By spacing the starting time of the various groups, one of the groups is on vacation while three groups are attending school. Saves on classrooms required. Enables teachers to work for twelve months. Not a complicated system to set up or administer, except that all children in one family must follow same schedule. Parents offer resistance, "What can my kids do during a three month forced vacation in December, January, and February?" Requires air-conditioning.

Four-Quarter Plan

The school year is made up of four three month terms, (60 days). Pupils pick the three terms out of the four that they wish to attend. Pupils may also choose to attend four out of the four terms. Provides more actual school days for those pupils who elect to take four terms. Costly. Does not save classroom space.

Modified Summer Session

Many courses are offered during an eight week summer session. Pupils may take 40 classes of 120-180 minutes as a substitute for 90 classes of 40-50 minutes during a semester of regular school year. Popular for typing, driver education, remedial reading, classes which have been failed by the pupil, extra classes for the purpose of earlier graduation. Costly unless tuition is charged. Pupils usually arrange own transportation.

The Extended School Year

The school calendar has had 40 to 60 class days added to it. Instead of two semesters of 90 class days, the pupil may have two semesters of 110 days to 120 days in length. Costly. No savings in classroom space. Teachers salaries, buses, etc., must be paid for the 40-60 extra days. A very good proposal for increasing pupil learning, but requires a substantial increase in cost of school operation.

Staggered Term Plan (Rotating term plan)

Pupils are scheduled for quarters or trimesters. This spreads enrollment throughout the year and saves on classroom requirements. Enables teachers to teach more months. Presents scheduling problems if groups are not the same size and if the terms are not of the same length. Requires one fourth or one third of pupils to be out for 3 months during the winter.

Continuous Progress Plan (Still in planning stages)

Several varieties including a trimester plan, quadrimester plan, and "extended K-12 scheme." Goals: Stress learning at individual's own pace in extended school year; conserve teacher and pupil time; permit pupils to accelerate a year; provide "extra" time units for projects.

Multiple Trails Plan

Eleven month school with modular scheduling for non-graded instruction. Daily time blocks free teachers and pupils by means of staggered courses; school space and resources are used more efficiently; enrichment and acceleration are built in. Scheduling for 24 time modules per day with every day different would require the individual scheduling of each classroom, each piece of equipment, each teacher, each pupil or small group of pupils. Legislation would be required to enforce attendance for the eleven months.

12-4 Plan

The pupils are divided into 4 equal groups; each group attends on a different, staggered basis; all go to school for 12 weeks and are then on vacation for 4 weeks. School is closed for a week at Christmas, a week at Easter, and 2 weeks in the summer. Each group has a different starting date so that at any one time only three groups are in school. Groups stay in the same rotation order. Only 3/4 of the classroom space that would normally be required is needed. Teachers may work 48 weeks and still have two one-week vacations and one two-week vacation. One group will have 34-43 days off at Christmas time; one group doesn't have a four week vacation in the summer. Simple to schedule.

9-3 Plan

Similar to the 12-4 Plan except pupils attend for 9 weeks and then have a 3 week vacation. One week vacations at Christmas, Easter, and in the summer are scheduled. Because of legal holidays the four groups of pupils do not necessarily have the same number of days of classes. The OSPI in Illinois has stated that all pupils attending classes under a year-round school scheduling system must have the same number of days of classroom instruction. Therefore, a 9 week - 3 week Plan would not be permitted in Illinois.

V B. WHAT THE 45-15 PLAN IS NOT

The Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan is not a short term or temporary plan for operating the schools. The first calendar sent out to the parents was only for a 15-month period. The calendar designed by Mr. Page, Research Director, was for a five-year period of time to insure that the plan could be scheduled through 1975 barring unforeseen problems. The 45-15 Plan is looked upon as a "way of life from now on".

One frequently asked question is "Now that the school district has gained the equivalent of dozens of extra classrooms by means of utilizing more days of the year, what is the school district going to do when the continued growth in enrollment makes the class sizes unmanageable again?" Mr. Hermansen has answered this question many times; his answer is "we will have to build more buildings in the future. If classrooms cannot be built, we'll then go to half day sessions on the 45-15 Plan."

The Valley View Schools have used double sessions before for certain grade levels and for certain school buildings and there seems to be no reason why pupils could not attend classes on a two-shift per day basis on the 45-15 Plan just as they have attended classes on the two shift per day basis on a traditional school year plan.

Another question has been asked several times. "Since the 45-15 Plan has given the district the equivalent of 60 fully equipped classrooms (as of September, 1970) does that mean that 60 classrooms would have to be built and equipped just to maintain the status quo if the district decided to revert to a traditional school year?" The answer is yes, unless some provision would be made for providing the 60 classrooms by means of double shifting the students.

V C COMMUNITY SURVEY

Since the people most vitally affected by a year round operation are the families with children, one hundred forty families were given a short questionnaire to ascertain their feelings about the 45-15 Plan. (See Appendix A.) One hundred eighteen returned the form. Only three were judged non-usable.

The sample was selected by choosing one child at random from each classroom. The questionnaire was sent home with the child and could be returned by a stamped, addressed envelope that was enclosed. No followup was made in order to avoid irritating parents, hence, the high percentage of returns is significant. Ordinarily, the return on questionnaires is much lower unless elaborate followup procedures are used. Presumably, the parents were interested enough in the topic to give a high response.

RESULTS

Vacations - Six items covered the topic of vacations, the most critical part of the 45-15 Plan. Generally, most of the respondents were in support of the various vacation features of the 45-15 Plan, though not in complete agreement. More important, few families showed strong objection to inherent features of the 45-15 Plan. Thus, while most families preferred vacations during the summer, they still would rather have four vacation periods, one during each season rather than one long vacation during the summer. In addition, they wanted their children to be all on vacation at one time.

In contrast, three aspects not inherent in the vacation pattern were more controversial. Fortunately, both extremes can be taken care of by individual teachers and individual schools. Thus, while 35% want their children to spend as much time as they wish in the school library, another 35% want their children to be free of school responsibilities and contracts. There were 17% that wanted their children to have homework assignments during the vacation periods but 19% wanted their children to maintain close contact with other children in school only in informal ways.

The full results on the six items are shown in TABLE I.

TABLE I

Responses by Parents to Vacation Items

Item	Most Prefer	Least Prefer
1. I prefer vacations (week or longer) in the		
a. Spring	19%	5%
b. Summer	66%	1%
c. Fall	10%	8%
d. Winter	2%	75%
No response	3%	11%
2. The rest of my family prefers vacations in		
a. Spring	14%	7%
b, Summer	77%	1%
c. Fall	5%	8%
d. Winter	1%	73%
No response	3%	11%
3. For my children's vacations, I prefer		
a. One vacation a year, 3 months long	15%	58%
b. Three vacations a year, 1 month each	8%	19%
c. Four vacations a year, one during each season, and each lasting about 3 weeks	65%	11%
No response	12%	12%
4. For my children, I prefer to have them		
a. All have their vacations at the same time	97%	0%
b. Have vacations at different times (as I and my spouse) choose	2%	18%
c. Have vacations at times each child chooses	0%	70%
No response	1%	12%

Second, a majority of the parents (51%) wanted their children with one teacher at least one year. This poses a problem in scheduling if the teacher wants a full year of employment. During the time her children are on vacation, the teacher can not be assigned to a new group of students but must await their return three weeks later. In the meantime, she could do substitute work, take in-service training, and do other tasks. Actually, the Valley View District worked out another solution for about half of the teachers. Teams of three teachers were formed which will handle about 120 pupils. As 30 pupils are always on vacation, only 90 are physically present each day. The pupils will have continuous contact with three familiar faces instead of just one. In addition, all of the options possible with team teaching will be present, such as temporary groupings, differentiated tasks for teachers and shared planning.

Third, the parents were almost equally split on a question that affects busing. Almost half (44%) wanted their children assigned to schools that the staff judged most suited for his needs, but another large minority (43%) wanted their children to attend schools close to their homes.

Finally, almost no parents (5%) supported the present legal requirement for children to enter school in September. Instead, most (54%) favored entrance when the child reaches six years of age and many (33%) favored entrance when the child is ready to read as determined by some test.

The specific results on these three items are shown in TABLE II.

TABLE II

Responses by Parents to Scheduling Items

Item	Most Prefer	Least Prefer
5. In contacts with teachers, I prefer my child to:		
a. Have as many contacts as possible with different teachers	15%	50%
b. Spend at least a year with one teacher	51%	18%
c. Be assigned teachers as the administration and staff decides	33%	17%
No response	1%	15%
7. A teacher should be:		
a. Encouraged to work all year in our school system	50%	17%
b. Encouraged to work only nine months each year, using the remaining time as he decides	23%	50%
c. Required to work all year, unless he is taking more course work	26%	24%
No response	1%	9%
8. I want my children to attend schools that are:		
a. Close to our home	43%	18%
b. Most suited to his needs, as judged by the staff	44%	21%
c. Most suited to his needs, as judged by me (and my spouse)	10%	45%
No response	3%	16%
10. Under each of the plans, students could enter school at several different times during the year. I would prefer my children to enter the first grade (or to have entered, if already in school):		

6. During vacation I would like my children to:		
a. Spend as much time in the school library as they wish	35%	13%
b. Participate in school athletic events	25%	29%
c. Be free of school responsibilities and contacts	35%	43%
No response	5%	15%
11. When on vacation, I would prefer my children:		
a. To have homework assignments	17%	71%
b. Be free to use the school library when they choose	56%	2%
c. Maintain close contact with other children in school only in informal ways	19%	16%
No response	8%	11%

SCHEDULING

Three kinds of scheduling problems exist with the 45-15 Plan. These are length and period of a teacher's contract, length of time each pupil is with one teacher or teacher team, and the specific vacation pattern ("group") that a family is on. In turn, the possible solutions to these problems will vary according to the distance a child can be transported. Longer bus routes cause a more complex bus schedule but can add freedom to other scheduling needs. Some kind of compromise is required. Any compromise must take into consideration parental demands. Hence, three critical questions were asked of the parents, summarized in TABLE II.

First, the parents were in surprising agreement that teachers should either be required to work all year (26%) or be encouraged to work all year (50%). Thus the parents generally did not seem concerned about teachers being fatigued, a view contrary to what many administrators and some teachers expressed.

a. When each reaches six years of age	54%	5%
b. When each is ready to read, as determined by some test	33%	36%
c. In September, irrespective of reading readiness	5%	45%
No response	8%	14%

OTHER COMMUNITY AGENCIES

One item was placed in the questionnaire to find out if parents were more concerned about the impact on others or on themselves. The most obviously affected non-school programs are the parks and other recreational facilities. A majority (54%) of the parents thought problems would be decreased for parks and recreation while only a small number (12%) felt that problems would be increased for the parents.

TABLE III

Responses of Parents to Outside Impact

Item	Most Prefer	Least Prefer
9. The effect of having only one fourth of the students on vacation at any one time would be to:		
a. Reduce problems for parks and other recreational facilities	54%	7%
b. Increase problems for parents	12%	53%
c. Decrease problems for parents	24%	24%
No response	10%	16%

EFFECTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Always of concern to an evaluator is the impact of the act of measurement on the people involved. (A similar concern in Physics is known as the Heesenberg principle.) To be avoided at all costs is an effect that would jeopardize the very program being evaluated.

Hence, two items were inserted to discover the possible consequences of administering the questionnaire. The general reactions were good, although the reactions of the 22 who did not return the form is not known. If the procedure is used again, then a followup interview might be worthwhile to see if this subgroup would react differently than the larger sample.

A majority of the parents (53%) said they understood better what the 45-15 Plan consists of as a result of filling out the questionnaire. Unfortunately, there was a small group (10%) who said they were more confused as the result of the questionnaire. In an attempt to find out what may have caused the problem, the comments of these people at the end of the questionnaire were read carefully. Apparently, most of the confusion was caused by the description of two other designs for year round operation given in the introduction. Evidently, they were just beginning to grasp the details of the 45-15 Plan when suddenly two other approaches were thrust at them through questionnaire. No previous discussion had ever taken place about these alternate designs in the community presentations made by the school officials.

Even more important, a large majority (70%) said they were more in favor of the plan as the result of the questionnaire as contrasted to a very small number (3%) who said they were more strongly against the 45-15 Plan.

TABLE IV

Responses of Parents About Questionnaire

Item	Most Prefer	Least Prefer
12. As the result of filling out this questionnaire:		
a. I understand better what the 45-15 Plan consists of	53%	3%
b. I am confused about the 45-15 Plan	10%	62%
c. I did not learn any more than I knew before	30%	18%
No response	7%	17%
13. As the result of filling out this questionnaire:		
a. I am more in favor of the 45-15 Plan	70%	5%
b. I am more strongly against the 45-15 Plan	3%	26%
c. I am now more in favor of the 60-20 Plan	5%	9%
d. I am now more in favor of the 180-90 Plan	4%	35%
No response	18%	25%

GENERAL COMMENTS

At the end of each questionnaire, each respondent could add comments, which most (50%) did. A fair size minority (22%) raised one or more questions or voiced specific objections to parts of the 45-15 Plan. Most of the concerns, however, stemmed from lack of knowledge about details of the obviously more complex school organization. A smaller group (8%) were emotionally against it in principle, irrespective of the adjustable features of the plan that could accommodate the specific objections of many other parents.

Any school district contemplating a year round operation needs to be aware of these possible objections. Hence, the specific content is discussed in more detail.

"We are strongly in favor of leaving the school system like it is right now and always has been...even if we could pay higher taxes I'd say $500 on a little four-room house is high enough."

"No matter what parents feel or what our opinion is, the state and the so-called "educators" will do as they please!...I'm unhappy about your 45-15 but at the same time I can understand why you're trying to put 45-15 into action."

"I hope it fails." (italics ours).

"To put it emphatically but not delicately, it stinks....I feel our children should enjoy a normal 3-month summer vacation as children everywhere else do."

"I am really not at all happy about the all year school plan. I feel children need the summers off."

"I speak for many working mothers when I say the 45-15 Plan will not work for us. No company will let us work on 45-15 Plan, so there go our jobs, and needed extra income."

"I do not want my children going to school during summer months. I don't feel they would be interested enough in their school activities to learn..."

"...I don't like our children being used for experiments and believe that the young teachers need a little more supervision."

VI CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The feasibility study, plus the actual experiences of planning the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan, leads to these conclusions and recommendations.

1. Any school system can move to a year round school operation if these three problems in winning acceptance are anticipated and planned for.

   A. Winning community acceptance.

   B. Involving professional staff with all of the specific ramifications of the operation, especially student scheduling.

   C. Developing a model or design that does not penalize, in the eyes of the community, certain families.

DISCUSSION:

Probably only busing and integration issues will more completely involve a community than a proposed year round school operation. Every family is affected. However, much of the controversy about busing and integration comes from the feelings of many families that they are being treated unfairly. Hence, a design for a continuous, year round school operation must appear as fair to all families. Thus, any plan that makes one-fourth of the families take vacations in the winter will be deeply resented by those families who do not want their children on vacation during the winter months. Two possible solutions are to have all students attend school all year or to split vacations into small segments throughout the year and then stagger the segments so that only a portion of the student population is on vacation at any one time. The 45-15 Plan gives every child a three week vacation in each season of the year.

Of course, winning acceptance requires more than a good year round design. People must be involved. For the community, this requires keeping them informed, allowing them to raise questions, and answering the questions promptly and warmly. For the staff, many more detailed answers are required. This can be done only by simulating a fully operating schedule, so that all conceivable questions can be answered. This approach has the added advantage of allowing changes to be made as unanticipated problems arise. Of course, no simulation will be so complete that the staff is fully acclimated. Only an actual operation will do that.

2. Any district planning a year round school operation must appropriate sufficient resources to do the planning properly.

DISCUSSION:

Every practical problem in a year round operation can be solved with sufficient anticipation and follow-through on the problem. Even if the prime motivation for shifting to a year round operation is to save money, initially, extra resources will be needed to set up a staff of two or three persons for at least a year to anticipate and resolve various problems. Ones of special concern to Valley View were:

A. Air conditioning for the summer months. (This was not really an extra cost, but a substitute cost for heating.)

B. Scheduling of staff and students.

C. Winning of community support.

D. Developing busing schedules.

E. Studying financial costs.

F. Planning of new buildings, which are still in need, because the 45-15 Plan only temporarily solves the need for added space resulting from rapidly expanding enrollments.

G. Obtaining necessary changes in the state legal codes for the operation of a year round school.

3. The prime motivation for moving into a year round operation should not be to save a large percentage of the annual budget but to demonstrate to taxpayers that educators can plan more adequately, make more efficient use of available tax dollars, and show the creativity that industry has used to advance it so rapidly.

DISCUSSION:

Careful analysis of anticipated costs of the 45-15 Plan show that the savings probably will be about 5%. The savings could go as high as 7-8% if all efficiencies inherent in the 45-15 Plan are taken advantage of. However, for various reasons, it may prove difficult to hang on to every savings possible.

Of course, the prime source of the savings is the extended use of capital outlay - land, buildings, and equipment. Staff costs might go up slightly, because of possible reduced turn-over and consequent overall rise in mean salaries as older staff members move up the salary schedule. A contrary trend might be reduced teacher demands when on a full year salary.

The long range consequence of these savings, important in itself, may be to improve taxpayer attitude toward education, so that more referendums can be passed that will make other improvements possible. One reason taxpayers now are so resistant is that they feel that increased tax rates do not bring corresponding improvements.

4. Curriculum need not be changed in any significant way to implement a year round school operation, but the breaking away from one tradition establishes a climate for making other changes as well.

DISCUSSION:

No important curriculum change was planned to accompany the 45-15 Plan except one. Teachers, when exploring the complications of the plan conceived the idea of "cooperative teaching," a kind of modified team teaching approach. Three teachers would work together to take care of 120 students with only 90 in school at any one time. Once old patterns are broken, it is relatively easy to undertake other changes as well, especially if they appear related and supportive of the year round activities. The cooperative approach arose with no stimulation from the administration. It is now clear that additional changes could have been nurtured if there had been the desire.

However, the school district deliberately chose not to emphasize other changes because the "message" to be presented to the community would be simpler and more easily understood. Also, because no other district had similar enough experience in introducing a staggered vacation plan, the task of informing the community and professional staff already looked big enough.

5. Evaluation and feasibility studies, while necessary for long range assessment of year round school operations, need not be a serious impediment to speedy planning and implementation of the 45-15 Plan in other school districts.

DISCUSSION:

The experience of the Valley View School District proves that the 45-15 Plan can be operated. It is a feasible plan.

Evaluation is a somewhat different problem. Ideally, an evaluation design should be built into any year round school operation just as it should be in any existing operation. However, the lack of an evaluation design is no reason not to implement the plan any more than it would be an argument to close down any existing program simply because evaluation is not formally incorporated. School programs have and will continue to operate without rigorous evaluation.

However, the spirit reflected in the 45-15 Plan of doing a better job for the taxpayers and for students means that some type of evaluation be included. Minimum base line data ought to include one or more measures of:

A. Student achievement.

B. Morale of professional staff.

C. Community acceptance.

D. Detailed financial costs.

VII A OTHER MATERIALS

The following is the script which accompanied the slide presentation which was used to give background information to groups of parents in the community. The script was read by Mr. Fred Mumaugh, a teacher at West View and a part-time radio announcer.

> During the past few months you as a community member of District #96 have no doubt had occasion to hear or read publications dealing with our continuous school year plan.
>
> Or, as it is referred to, The Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan.
>
> You probably have many questions concerning the plan and why it was designed.
>
> Or seek a fuller understanding of just how the plan will effect you and your children.
>
> Basically, the Valley View 45-15 Plan is something that has been developed for your children and around our particular school district and community.
>
> It is a plan that has been born out of necessity.
>
> To better understand this, let's take a moment to look into the past, present, and future growth pattern of District #96.
>
> In 1953-54, Valley View School was constructed, with building additions made between the years 1955 to 1959. The school has 31 classrooms and a capacity of 930 pupils.
>
> Park View School was constructed in the years 1962 and 1963, with building additions made between the years 1963-64. The school 44 classrooms and a capacity of 1200 pupils.
>
> North View School was constructed in the years of 1963 and 1964. The building has 31 classrooms and a capacity of 1000 pupils.

West View Junior High School was constructed in 1966-67. The building has teaching stations rather than traditional classrooms and a capacity of 1200 pupils.

Brook View School located in Bolingbrook, was constructed in 1968-69. The building has 16 classrooms and a capacity of 480 pupils.

And lastly, Ridge View School, ready for use in the fall of 1969, has 16 classrooms and a capacity of 480 pupils.

Thus, the total capacity of students in our six district schools is 5280 pupils from first through eighth grade.

The construction of the six previously cited schools has been a result of a tremendous growth within our community. For a moment let's look at this growth.

In 1952, six one-room country schools were unified by annexation, and in 1953, one more one-room country school was annexed.

At this time the population of Romeoville, the only incorporated area, was 150, and relatively stable until 1957.

In 1957, 600 acres were taken into the Village of Romeoville and the first Hampton Park Subdivision was begun, having a population of 197.

Soon afterwards, the following subdivisions were begun. College View, Mikan Subdivision, Westbury, Kings Park, Colonial Village and several more subdivisions of Hampton Park.

Recently, Sugar Brook and Beacon Ridge were begun.

The rural areas have experienced a build up with several of the subdivisions forming the Village of Bolingbrook.

Also, it has been confirmed that the following subdividers have filed plat maps with the county zoning office.

Hoffman Rosner

Levitt

Van Hazelbrook

Barr

Winston Muss

Thus in the near future there will be 14,500 dwellings plus the continued growth of existing subdivisions.

From a beginning enrollment of 89 pupils in 1953-54 to our current enrollment of over 5,422, you have continually been able to provide the highest quality of education and updated facilities for children.

But, what about the future? This is where our real concern lies.

Within a matter of months, our six buildings will, due to increased enrollment, no longer be large enough to offer the best education that your child needs! Why?

It is estimated that enrollment will increase 12% or 655 pupils in 1969-70 and 20% or 1438 pupils in 1970-71.

The two factors contributing to such an increase in enrollment are Number 1, the expansion of subdivisions and Number 2, a state law effective in 1970 requiring that the school district provide a kindergarten education for each school aged child.

This means that in the school year 1969-70 there will be approximately 340 pupils more than the schools were built to educate and in the school year 1970-71, an additional 1438 pupils!!

As a result there could be as many as 60 pupils plus, in one classroom or ½ day sessions.

A simple solution to overcoming this problem would be to build more schools. It can't be done!

The taxpayers in our district have approved borrowing of the maximum amount of money for building purposes under state law.

Thus, after many months of research, the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan was developed.

This plan offers a design whereby our pupils will not be in overcrowded conditions and they can attend a full day of classes.

It is a plan whereby the pupils will utilize existing school facilities and present buildings throughout the year.

The success of the Valley View 45-15 Plan is founded on a thorough study of the strengths and limitations of other continuous year programs, taking into consideration every possible aspect of pupil and community needs.

Here, then, is a brief description of the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan.

It is a scheduling system that utilizes the school facilities throughout the whole year.

The pupil population is divided into four equal groups--A, B, C, D. Children in the same family are always placed in the same time schedule unless the parent requests otherwise.

This is a calendar which has been made up for the school year 1970-71. Legal holidays, Saturdays and Sundays, a week at Easter, and an adjusting period of six to nine days are designated as times when the school is closed.

Each of the four groups of pupils will attend 45 class days and then have 15 class days vacation.

In every season each group has 15 class days of vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each of the groups, at any one time only three of the groups will be attending any one class day.

The four groups will always stay in the same order of rotation.

In a calendar year each group will attend classes 180 days or, 4 sessions of 45 days per calendar year.

What about the distant future under the 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan?

Once our bonding power is regained, school buildings will still have to be constructed.

However, under the 45-15 Plan, for every 3 schools of equivalent size constructed, we will have gained a fourth.

Mark Twain once said "To get rid of submarines, boil the ocean. How you boil the ocean is your problem."

And in this statement we realize that there will be many periods of adjustment now/and in the future common only to our district.

We must, then, work together in an effort to maintain the type of education that will afford your child the best that our district can offer.

VII B OTHER MATERIALS

News articles from local and regional newspapers were collected, mounted on 8½ x 11 three-hole punch paper, and placed in ring binders under the following catagories in chronological order:

A) Growth and development in Valley View District #96 area or Will County area.

B) Building construction (including bus barn), remodeling, purchase of buses.

C) Census and data-processing.

D) Curriculum, teacher study committee, kindergarten program.

E) Instructional TV, Illinois Bell lines.

F) Classroom Teachers Association, teacher negotiations, salaries.

G) Other schools in Will County, Illinois, or United States.

H) The 45-15 Plan.

Articles relating to the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan are included to provide insights into how the news media presented the 45-15 Plan.

the BEACON August 15, 1968 Page 19

SCHOOL BOARD OKS
$5.6 MILLION BUDGET

A five and one-half million dollar budget was adopted at the Monday evening board meeting and budget hearing of School District 96. The separate funds were broken down as follows:

Education	3,207.738.07
Building	309,261.55
Bond & Int.	450,600.00
I. M. R. F.	38,760.00
Transport.	179,062.00
Construction	
West View	34,362.15
New Schools	1,383,139.14
Total	$5,602.922.91

Finance Chairman James Bingle praised the budget as being the most realistic in the history of the school, and credited business manager Dan Sufoletto for the new and more comprehensive format.

The following motion was proposed by vice-president Harold Lindstrom:

"I move that the Board of Education of School District #96 direct the district administrative team to begin, forthwith, detailed investigation procedures on various possibilities of updating our school calendar. That the ultimate primary purpose of these investigative proceedures shall be to design a sound educational proposal for the extended use of school facilities and personnel in District #96. Also, that the administrative team make recommendations to the Board of Education on their findings and that these recommendations shall be made with the expressed purpose of up dating the District #96 school calendar no later than the 1971-72 school year." All approved the motion.

What the above means is that the board wants a program on a 12-month school year. Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen and multi-media director James Gove had announced at previous meetings that they are in the process of investigating this possibility.

Beacon - Aug 1, 1968

Urge 12 Month School Year

District 96 Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen was urged by the Board of Education at Monday's meeting to expedite plans for a 12-month school year as soon as possible. Hermansen and administrative assistant Jim Gove reported that they had spent considerable time studying this possibility, but that much more research was still to be done.

Board vice-president Harold Lindstrom said he had thought that such a program could be in effect by 1970. Gove said the earliest target date they could work toward would be in 1971. He and Hermansen explained that at present there was but one school in the country that was carrying a full-fledged 12-month school year, and that District 96 would be largely pioneering in this field.

A two-cent levy was approved for a building fund for special education facilities. This tax will be on the 1968 levy and will provide funds for this purpose next June or July.

Approval was given to advertise the sale of bonds (building fund) and to award bids in September or a later date if the bond market is expected to be more favorable later.

Attorney Eugene Korst, in his report on the approved land purchase from Alexander, said that the contracts had not yet been returned by Richard McKool. He also revealed that the Bechtel Oil pipeline right-of-way cuts through a portion of the property just north of Park View School. This is one of the two plots the board is purchasing from Alexander. Korst said he asked McKool if the sale of the right-of-way to Bechtel was a factor in reducing the sale price of the land to the School. McKool, he reported, said it did not.

Two resignations were accepted and five teacher contracts approved. The activities fee for West View Jr. High was set at $8.50 with the option to make payments in two parts.

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Lockport Herald News 29 Aug. 68

School Construction Will Get Underway

By Louise Schaller

Construction of a 16 room school in Romeoville will begin immediately. A land purchase contract was signed by the District 96 School Board President, Bruce Webster, and Vice President, Harold Lindstrom, at Monday's District 96 board session.

A letter authorizing the contractor to begin work was also signed by Webster. Location of the building will be south of Romeo Rd., midway between Rt. 53 and the power lines at the west village limits.

Obligation of Bechtel Oil Company regarding their easement on the recently acquired acreage north of Park View School were outlined by Fugene Korst, board attorney. All disturbances to the property, if any occur, must be satisfactorily repaired by the oil company.

Construction of driveways and sidewalks over the easement by the school is permissible according to Attorney Korst.

Teachers approved for hiring were Lillian Edgerly, third grade at Park View; Jean Green, sixth grade, Dennis Shea, task force, and Ruth Burd, fifth grade, Valley View; Richard Burd and Samira Bird, social studies, and Norma Plumlee, special education, West View.

Joyce Velemir will be administrative intern and Edward Crombie will be attendance officer.

Appreciation to the board was expressed in a letter from Ray Page, state superintendent of public instruction, regarding their enacting the two cent tax levy recently voted into law.

Delia Coleman, school cafeteria supervisor, gave a report on the past year's successful cafeteria operation. Mrs. Coleman cited a need of additional appliances at North View School. Need of a steam kettle was one of the major items.

John Lukancic, assistant superintendent, asked for the cancellation of a sabbatical leave previously granted Marge Harlan. She had been a first grade teacher at Park View and will now teach in the special ed department.

Enrollment figures were read by Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent. He predicted enrollment reaching 5,000 plus students in the first week of the semester. Park View has 1,607 students; North View, 1,072; Valley View, 1,086, and West View, 1,188.

School audit report by Grumley, Thornton, Dicke and Clark indicate that all procedures used in the school finance records were correct and the books in order.

Use of building facilities for holding two dances was approved. President Webster instructed Dan Suffoletto, business manager, to stress the need of chaperones and adult supervision in accordance with board policy.

Seventy-five bid notices will be sent to prospective bidders on the bonds from the referendum held in September of 1967. Bids will be awarded at the Sept. 23 meeting.

A one-half hour executive session was held regarding site location.

Details of an agreement between the school and the Romeoville Recreation Board will be negotiated by the attorneys and will be announced at the Sept. 9 board meeting.

Educational provisions for 12 St. Andrew's eighth grade students were made. Students will attend St. Andrew's for religion and math and the remainder of their schedule at West View Junior High.

Details were worked out by Hermansen, Father Arthur Maher and Lukancic.

Meetings are being scheduled on the project of investigating the feasibility of a 12 month school program. Session will be held Sept. 10 at Park View. Boyd Bucher will speak over the local radio station Oct. 1 and Northern Illinois University will hold a seminar Oct. 22 on campus.

A group of mothers present inquired about bus transportation. Board members allowed a one-half hour session with them to explain all phases of the busing program.

Next meeting will be Sept. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Park View School. . . .

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Administrators Meet with Press

Hampton Park Herald
19 Sep 68

Three newspaper persons met with District 96 school officials Sept. 10 to discuss various methods of reaching the people.

Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen spoke about the research now being done on a 12 month school year. All phases of this method to use the present school facilities will be explored.

Superintendent Hermansen emphasized his intention of keeping the public advised of all progress on this program. He noted that parents should be aware that their children will not be going to school the entire 12 months.

Literature dealing with the 12 month school was given to the press and articles will appear on the subject.

One advantage of this new plan would be to allow a student to have fewer teacher changes. Drop out rate should also decrease.

Hampton Park
Herald
September 19, 1968

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Beacon
26 Sep 68

HERMANSEN TO TALK ON 12-MONTH SCHOOL YEAR

Mr. Kenneth Hermansen, Superintendent of the Elementary School District #96, will presenta report on a Joliet radio station on the exlporation of year around schools in the district as a possible solution to the overcrowded conditions in the schools.

Hermansen will give a preliminary explanation of how the children of the district would attend school on a 9-week, 3-week rotation basis. If such a plan were to be placed in operation, it would require changing the customary school calendar, and would have a major effect on all residents of the district.

This report will be aired over radio station WJOL, AM at 6:55 p.m., Tuesday, October first.

Radio Report

H. P. Herald
26 Sep 68

Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent of School District 96, will present the superintendent's annual report Oct. 1 at 6:45 p.m. over radio station WJOL. A major theme of his reporting deals with over-crowded conditions in the district. Possible solutions to the over-crowding will be discussed.

One major plan that Hermansen will explore with the listeners is that of operating the schools of District 96 the year round. If such a plan were to be placed in operation it would necessitate the changing of the customary school calendar.

Hermansen will give a preliminary explanation of how the children of the district would attend school on a nine week, 3 week rotation basis.

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Joliet Herald-News, Tuesday, October 29, 1968—

Year-round class plan awaits OK

ROMEOVILLE — A proposed year - round school schedule that would affect 4,690 students is still awaiting final state approval, it was learned Monday night at the Valley View District 96 School Board meeting.

The 45 - 15 plan calls for classes in District 96 schools to run through the summer and students to be divided into four groups.

Under the plan each group would attend class 45 days and have a 15 day vacation break. Only three groups would be in class at any one time. The other would be on vacation. Students would still attend school the required 180 days.

If approved, the plan could go into effect by September of 1970 and maybe earlier. District 96 officials said they would hold a public meeting in the future to inform parents on the progress of the proposal.

A projected calendar for next five years under the plan will give students a week vacation at Christmas and Easter along with the regular legal holidays. In addition to these vacation periods, the school would only be closed for a week in July. Presently District 96 schools are closed all summer.

The Beacon 19 Sept. 68

NOT CRITICAL—
BUT DESPERATE

The situation at Lockport West High School has passed the critical stage, and is now desperate. Even principal Charles Whalen, who had been optomistic about his ability to squeeze two pupils into space built for one pupil, has admitted that the end of the line is here.

Lockport West, built 5 years ago to house 1000 students, now is housing 1800. Whalen has managed to cope with this situation by having a large percentage of the students starting their classes one period before the bulk of the student body, and dismissing these pupils one period earlier. By next September the school will have a minimum of 2100 students, and all the gerrymandering in the world will not make it possible to provide a proper education for the students under those crowded conditions.

It is obvious that something must be done between now and next September. It goes without saying, that additional facilities and staff are needed, but the voters have time and time again refused to vote the funds needed for expansion. And even if the voters gave the board of education the funds for new classrooms and teachers today, the new additions could not be ready till 1970.

The only interim measure that is now feasible is the shifting of some west side pupils to the Central and East campus'. These schools are also at or over capacity, but nowhere as over capacity as West.

Of course there will be objections from administrators, some school board members, some pupils, and some parents. However, it would seem to us, that these objections, especially those from the east side, must be secondary to the over-all need for quality education for all of the children in the school district, not only those on the east side. And it is certain that a pupil cannot get quality education in a school carrying double the capacity it was built to accomodate.

Looking further ahead, it is necessary that the board of education continue to explore a new approach to the taxpayers. Early this year they enlisted the help of a Citizens Advisory Council. Though the Council did an excellent job of investigating the needs of the district, and tired to relay this information to the public, their wo was largely negated because the Lockport newspaper.

The board of education ma also take a page out of the bo of School District 96. Th board of education has directe their administrators to explor and come up with a useab plan for a 12-month school ye by 1970. If District 96 succeed in putting into practice a 12-month school year (which wou add one-third to the capacity present building facilities) the would eventually be frustrate if the high school did not ha a similar plan. The high scho board of education should offe the leadership, and not be jus a follower or looker-on in thi crucial study.

Administrators Meet with Press

Hampton Park Herald
19 Sep 68

Three newspaper persons met with District 96 school officials Sept. 10 to discuss various methods of reaching the people.

Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen spoke about the research now being done on a 12 month school year. All phases of this method to use the present school facilities will be explored.

Superintendent Hermansen emphasized his intention of keeping the public advised of all progress on this program. He noted that parents should be aware that their children will not be going to school the entire 12 months.

Literature dealing with the 12 month school was given to the press and articles will appear on the subject.

One advantage of this new plan would be to allow a student to have fewer teacher changes. Drop out rate should also decrease.

October 31, 1968
Lockport Herald

Studies 12 Month Plan

by Louise Schaller

District 96 school board studied a 12 month school year plan at Monday's meeting.

Valley View's 45-15 plan is a six point program. Point one is in regard to pupil population divided into four equal groups, A, B, C and D. Children in the same family will always have the same time schedule.

Point two: A calendar has been made up for the next five years. Legal holidays, Saturdays and Sundays, a full week for Christmas vacation, a full week for Easter vacation and at least one week in July have been designated as times when the schools will be closed.

Point three: Each of the four groups of pupils will attend 45 class days, than have 15 class days of vacation.

Point four: By staggering the starting dates of each group, only three of the groups will be attending class any one class day.

Point five: Teachers and class rooms are scheduled. Because of the size of the pupil schedules and school calendar, electronic data processing facilities will be necessary to the scheduling procedures.

Point six: Four groups will always stay in the same order of rotation. In the calendar year, each group will attend classes 180 days, four sessions of 45 days per session.

Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent, wanted the parents of District 96 to be advised that a public meeting will be held before any plans are finalized on the 12 month school year.

Harold Lindstrom, vice president, advises eighth grade parents of District 96 and parents of Lockport West students that District 96 board has gone on record as being in favor of plan "C" on the recently distributed Lockport West survey. Board unanimously concurred with Lindstrom's reccommendation. Plan "C" is redistricting school boundaries.

Dan Suffaletto, business manager, reported a check from the First National Bank of Lockport in the amount of $475 additional interest.

Romeoville Parade Committee thanked the school board for use of the parking lot at Park View School for the units of the anniversary parade.

Superintendent Hermansen stated that the student population in all four schools is 4,960.

Sangar Westphal and Robert Shoop architects, presented a report on the Valley View School remodeling which will be completed during the Christmas vacation. They also stated that the outer work is completed at Brook View School, interior work is in process and curbs and sidewalks are 95 per cent completed.

Next board meeting will be held at Park View School Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

The Be[illegible] 31 Oct 69

SCHOOL BOARD REPORTS ON PLANS FOR 12-MONTH SCHOOL YEAR

A report on the recent conference on a 12-month school year, held at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, illustrated the state-wide leadership of School District 96 in this area. Reports were given at Monday's meeting by Jim Gove, head of the multi-media department, Superintendent Ken Hermansen, board member James Bingle, and two teachers.

The "Valley View 45-15 Plan" introduced at the conference by the District 96 representatives became the center of discussion at the conference. Over 100 educators attending the conference, it was reported, asked many questions about the plan, and "tried to shoot it full of holes". All points about the feasibility and practicality of the plan were satisfactorily answered, they reported.

Superintendent Hermansen emphasized to the board and the audience that the plan is being formulated, not to offer leadership in this field, but was born out of necessity— the need for more space. Secondary applications of the plan are improved education and economics.

Jim Gove pointed out that the alternatives to a 12-month school year would be 70 pupils to a class, double sessions, or requesting more building thru a bond issue. The latter, however, would not answer the need for two reasons. The buildings could not be built in time to accomodate the great influx of pupils (due to the compulsory kindergarten by 1970), and because the bonding power of the school is exhausted.

Target date for the plan is June, 1970. Much more planning and research remains, however, and a start may not be feasible till 1971.

In simple terms, the plan will institute four equal sized groups of students. On the specified starting day of the plan, group "A" would start. Three weeks later "B" group starts. Three weeks after that group "C" starts school. Three weeks later group "D" starts, and group "A" starts a 15-school-day "vacation". This cycle continues throughout the year.

It was pointed out that all the children in one family would be placed in the same grouping.

As more studies are completed and more information is available, detailed information will be diseminated to the parents of the district by the board of education.

Joliet HERALD-NEWS

Vol. 65, No. 65 42 Pages Joliet, Illinois, Thursday, November 7, 1968 10 Cents

OVEMBER
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
VALLEY VIEW
45 — 15 PLAN

VALLEY VIEW EXTENDED SCHOOL CALENDAR DISPLAYED
Patrick Page, research assistant for school district

Proposal in Romeoville for year-around school

By DOROTHY CRYDER

ROMEOVILLE — A pioneer venture that would utilize the school facilities of the Valley View District throughout the entire year has been developed by the school administration.

The venture, called Plan 45-15, was drafted by Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen; James Gove, administrative assistant to the superintendent; John Lukancic, assistant superintendent, and Patrick Page, research assistant.

Gove said the alternative to a 12-month school year would be 70 pupils to a class, double sessions or more buildings through a bond issue.

"This would not answer the needs," he explained, "because buildings could not be built in time to accommodate the great influx of students due to compulsory kindergarten by 1970 which, alone will bring in about 700 extra students. Also, with the building of the last two new schools, the district has exhausted its bonding power."

"This is the first time such a plan has been inaugurated in the United States," Hermansen said.

He pointed out that this program was developed only for the Valley View District to fit its particular situation and was not meant as a master plan for any other district. Target date for initiation of the plan is June 1970.

"Parents' reaction to the plan has ben varied," Hermansen said. "Mothers seem to be worried about the effect that attending school in summer will have on their children and on the family's vacation plans. Most fathers seem relieved that there is an alternative to more building through tax money."

"The plan is very simple," administrative assistant Gove said. "The pupil population is divided into four equal parts, A, B, C and D. Children in the same family are always placed in the same time schedule.

He said research assistant Page has made up a school calendar for the next five years. Legal holidays, Saturdays and Sundays, a full week at Christmas, Easter, and at least one week in July have been designated as time when the school would be closed.

Each of the four groups of pupils would attend 45 class days and have 15 class days vacation. But, by staggering starting date of each group, Gove explained, at anyone time only three of the groups would be attending classes on any one class day.

"Because of the large pupil poulation, class schedules, and school calendar, electronic data processing facilities would be necessary for the scheduling," he said.

The four groups would always

(Continued on Page 11)

Proposal in Romeoville for year-around school

Joliet Herald-News, Thursday, November 7, 1968—41

(Continued from Page One)

stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group would attend classes 180 days (four sessions of 45 days per session), explained Gove.

"I'm not sure I like the plan," Mrs. Eleanor Albers of 580 Belmont St. said. "My husband is a truck driver and it would be hard for him to get off during the winter and we don't like to go places during bad weather."

The Alberses have two daughters at Park View School, which is in the Valley View District. "But it would solve the problem of overcrowding and I would like to knuow more about it," she said.

"Basically I think Plan 45-15 is sound," said Peter King, a barber who resides on Bluff Road. "I think Ken Hermansen and his staff have given a great deal of thought and study to it." King has a daughter at West View and a son at Valley View.

"The administration sees to it that people are informed by sending fliers home and I'm one of those parents who reads what my children bring home," continued King.

Mrs. Evelyn Coker of 578 Belmont St. also has heard of the plan. Her only child, a son, is a student at Valley View.

"I'm not sure he would like going to school in the summer time," [illegible] said. "When the weather is nice he loves to play outdoors and swim. What would I do with him in the winter when he couldn't play outdoors? A child can be an absolute demon if he's cooped up without anything to do."

"I never head of Plan 45-15 before," said Howard Jones of 506 Kenyon St., who has a daughter at Valley View and a son and daughter at Park View.

Jones, an employe of Kerr Glass, used to be a school custodian.

"It sounds good," he said, "but how are they going to clean up the schools if they have school year around? It's really something to get a school cleaned up."

Harry Seyler of 402 Montclair Ct. had not heard of the plan. A guard at Stateville Penitentiary, he has three daughters enrolled in the district.

"I get a vacation in February and in August, so I'm sure we could work something out," he said. "I know something has to be done and this sounds good to me. I want to hear more," he added.

Mrs. Mildred Watts of 16 Elgin St. has two daughters at Valley View.

"I'm wondering if the summer weather wouldn't affect the children. I can't believe they would put their hearts into school work when the weather is so nice outside," she said.

"It seems to me they could design school buildings so they could add on to them. Why are they always so flat and why do they always build out instead of up?" she asked. "Where will it all end?"

Gus Nilles, supervisor of the physical education department at West View Junior High, said he thinks the plan is well worth a try.

"We talk about taxation, but this is one of the first positive efforts to offset more building plans. Male teachers go through quite a transition period during the summer because it is necessary for most of them to get a summer job.

"I've had a summer construction job for many years and it is difficult reverting from one job to another. Now I have a chance to be a teacher all year around," he said.

Mrs. Anne Puetz, second grade teacher at Park View Elementary School, thinks 45-15 is an exciting plan. "My husband is retired now and he wanted me to retire but I love teaching too much to give it up," she said.

"We both like the idea of my teaching 45 days and having 15 days off. We could take vacations, visit our children and do lots of things on those three-week periods I would have off."

Mrs. Nancy Hunt, first grade teacher at Park View, said she is still questioning the plan and wondering how it would affect her family.

"I have two children in elementary grades although I understand the plan will be worked out whereby we have the same time off," she said. "I do enjoy my summers home with my children.

"I also wonder what effect going to school 45 days and being off 15 will have on slow learners. Will we have to start all over again?"

"However, the plan sounds interesting and certainly I think it should be tried," she said.

Wayne Newlin, associate superintendent of public instruction for the State of Illinois, said there are a number of 12-month proposed plans where areas are working with consultants but Valley View is the only district developing its own plan.

Legislation was passed at the last Illinois General Assembly that allows a board of education to operate a school on a calendar of 12 months, 235 attendance days. No student can be required to attend more than

PETER KING

HARRY SEYLER

NANCY HUNT

MILDRED WATTS

three consecutive quarters, he said.

The planning office of public instruction has offered to give what ever assistance is necessary to developing the program. Should there be a need for enabling legislation, the office would be responsible for bringing this before the next legislature in January, Newlin said.

"The beauty of this plan is its tremendous flexibility," Valley View Superintendent Hermansen explained. "A teacher who has reached retirement age and wants to teach may do so for 90 days each year."

"A teacher with small children may rotate the same hours as her children. A male teacher can now teach a full year without having to 'moonlight'.

"At our district workshop for teachers the plan was explained to them and they were given a staff preference survey to fill out. The results of that survey are now being tabulated," he said.

Hermansen said the plan offers unlimited possibilities to park and recreation centers that could plan for year-around activities.

"Think of the police department," he said. With 100 per cent of our youth on the streets for three months, there is bound to be trouble. This way only one fourth of the students at a time are on vacation.

"Every season a dad knows exactly what three weeks his children will be home and can plan accordingly. No longer is he limited to June, July or August for vacations. .

"Think what this would mean to construction companies," he said. "The men wouldn't have to go on vacation in the summer when work is at its peak."

He stressed that all students who were graduated during the summer would be qualified to attend high school.

"We don't feel hurt at all if people take pot shots at our program. We know it is technically feasible. It is the human and emotional element with which we are now concerned."

Hermansen plans to reach the parents through community "coffee klatches." He has asked band parents, PTO and other school organizations to help sponsor the coffee information sessions.

"We also operate an education 'dial-a-message' which is manned by a school board or administration member. Anyone may dial 838-0699 anytime to receive the message of the week," he said.

Valley View is one of the largest elementary school distrcts in Illinois. The residents could be described as middle class working families; almost every family has children.

In 1952, six one-room country schools were unified by annexation. In 1963, one more one-room country school was annexed. At that time the population of Romeoville, the only incorporated area then in the district, was 150. The population was relatively stable until 1957.

In 1957, 600 acres were taken into the village of Romeoville and the first Hampton Park subdivision was started with a population of 197.

Other subdivisions have been developed — College View, Mikan, Westbury, Kings Park, Colonial Village, Sugar Brook and Beacon Ridge.

All housing developments have grown at a very rapid rate. Several of the subdivisions have formed the village of Bolingbrook.

There are six schools in the Valley View District.

Valley View School in Naperville Road was planned for 900 intermediate pupils and has an enrollment now of 1,144.

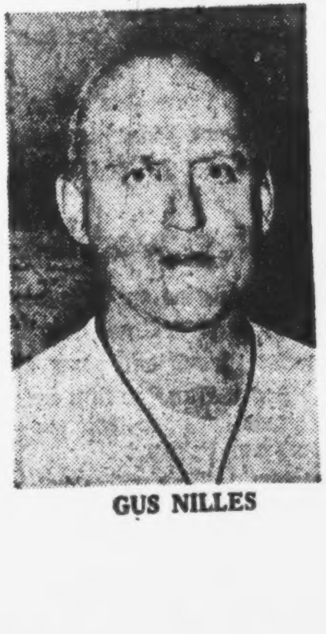
Park View School on Dalhart Avenue has a planned capacity of 1,200 primary pupils and a present enrollment of 1,537.

North View School, east of Illinois 53 and north of Interstate 80, has planned capacity for 1,000 pupils and a present enrollment of 1,061.

West View Junior High on Belmont Drive and Romeo Road is a demonstration center school. Planned capacity is 1,100 pupils and present enrollment is 1,129.

Two new schools are being constructed with an anticipated completion date of September 1969. Each building will have 16 classrooms and a planned capacity of 480 students.

There are some 4,000 students presently enrolled in the district with 7,035 anticipated for 1970-1971.



GUS NILLES

ANNE PUETZ

HOWARD JONES

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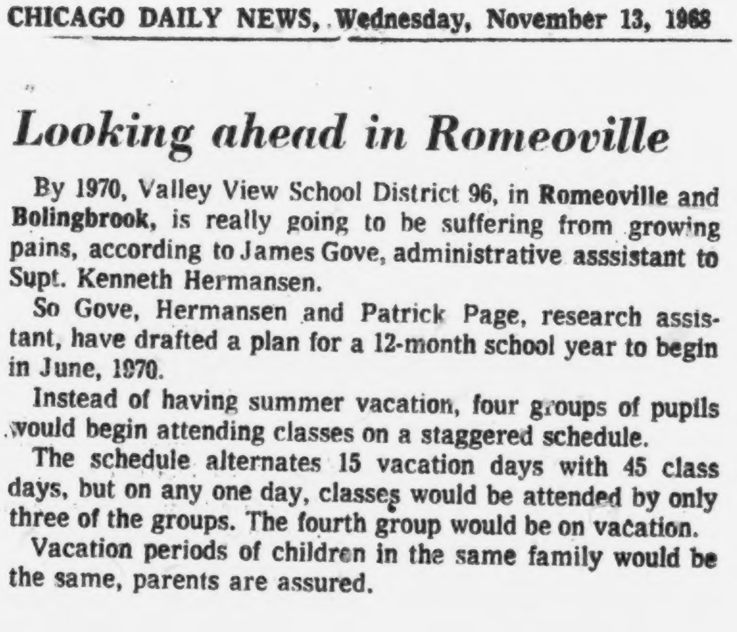

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, Wednesday, November 13, 1968

Looking ahead in Romeoville

By 1970, Valley View School District 96, in **Romeoville** and **Bolingbrook**, is really going to be suffering from growing pains, according to James Gove, administrative asssistant to Supt. Kenneth Hermansen.

So Gove, Hermansen and Patrick Page, research assistant, have drafted a plan for a 12-month school year to begin in June, 1970.

Instead of having summer vacation, four groups of pupils would begin attending classes on a staggered schedule.

The schedule alternates 15 vacation days with 45 class days, but on any one day, classes would be attended by only three of the groups. The fourth group would be on vacation.

Vacation periods of children in the same family would be the same, parents are assured.

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CHICAGO TRIBUNE, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1968

Valley View Officials Propose School Change

School doors in Valley View district 96, Romeoville and Bolingbrook, will be open year around if an administration proposal is adopted.

The plan calls for a division of student population into four sections, or "tracks," by June, 1970. Under the revised school calendar, each track would be in session for 45 days, followed by 15 days vacation.

"By staggering starting dates over a 12-month period, we will increase our facilities by one-third without building additional classrooms," said James Gove, administrative assistant to district superintendent Kenneth Hermansen.

Classrooms Are Crowded

Classrooms are becoming increasingly crowded in the district, which has approximately 4,900 children enrolled in four schools with a planned capacity of 4,200. Two more schools for nearly 1,000 students are under construction for use in 1969.

Projected enrollment for 1970 is 7,035.

According to Gove, the proposed schedule also indicates general closing days: weekends, legal holidays, a week each at Christmas and Easter, and from five to seven days in the summer, when classes will be recycled.

No Real Alternative

Alternatives to the year long approach could include increasing the number of students assigned to each classroom or establishing double sessions, Gove said.

Because the district has exhausted its bonding power, local funds for classroom construction are unavailable, he explained.

Officials have applied to the state school building commission for funds, but "there is a two-year to three-year waiting list," he said. "The only solution is to more fully utilize the facilities we have."

Calendar is Selected

The proposed calendar was selected from 16 plans compiled by Gove, Hermansen, and Patrick Page, a research assistant. They next will study teacher and community attitudes toward their recommendation.

A recently completed survey of staff members indicates that

[TRIBUNE Staff Photo]

SCHOOL CALENDAR—Harold Lindstrom, Route 3, Lockport, vice president of district 96 board of education, explains the district's proposed year-round school calendar to Scott Seitzberg, 6, a 1st-grade pupil.

schedule, could increase or decrease their teaching load as they desire, he said.

"Many certified teachers who are homemakers may wish to work for only two 'tracks' or 90 days," he explained. "Men who are breadwinners could work five tracks, or 225 days, if they wished."

Pay probably would be on a per-day basis, Gove said. Officials hope the flexibility of the schedule will attract additional teachers and eliminate the need for many others to hold a second job.

Community Reaction Unknown

An analysis of community reaction is just beginning, Gove said. The district plans a series of informational "kaffee klatsches" to begin next month with the cooperation of parent-teacher organizations.

As yet there have been "no broad objections to the plan," Gove said, "but naturally there are many questions the community wants answered."

Similar experiments in other

"By using data processing and other technical aids we hope to eliminate the first problem," Gove said. "To combat the second, we will try to answer all questions about our aims."

Gove estimated the analyses will be completed by April or May, when the board of education will act on the proposal. If it is approved, the administration will launch the second phase of the program, which Gove describes as "a gearing up" for enrollment of the first track of students on June 30, 1970.

Other experiments in progress in the United States differ from the Valley View program because "their primary purpose is to enrich curricula or to provide additional schooling for children," Gove said. "Ours is designed to better utilize existing school facilities."

And what about student reaction to the proposal?

"We have no feedback from students as yet," Gove said.

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10—Joliet Herald-News, Tuesday, November 25, 1968

District may seek patent on year-around school plan

ROMEOVILLE — School administrators of Valley View District 96 are investigating the possibility of securing a patent on their proposed extended school year plan.

This venture to utilize school facilities of the district throughout the year is called Plan 45-15, and was drafted by Superintendent Kenneth Hemansen; James Gove, administrative assistant; John Lukancic, assistant superintendent, and Patrick Page, research assistant.

The plan calls for dividing the pupil population into four equal groups. Each of the groups would attend 45 class days and have 15 days vacation. But, by staggering starting dates of each group, only three of the groups would be attending classes on any one day.

"We are not sure a patent can be obtained," Hermansen said, "but we are working closely with two computer companies to develop a system of data processing for the plan and we would like to be protected by a patent before the plan is put into effect."

Joliet Herald-News, Wednesday, December 18, 1968—39

Pioneer school plan aired at Romeoville

ROMEOVILLE — A progress report on a pioneer venture to utilize school facilities of the Valley View School District throughout the year was given at the board of education meeting Monday night.

The plan was drafted by Supt. Kenneth Hermansen; James Gove, administrative assistant to the superintendent; John Lukancic, assistant superintendent and Patrick Page, research assistant.

The plan calls for the pupils to be divided into four groups. Each group would attend 45 class days and have 15 class days vacation. But, by staggering starting dates of each group, only three of the groups would be attending classes on any one day.

Hermansen emphasized that the plan was born out of necessity for the district to alleviate already overcrowded conditions and to accommodate the influx of students due to the start of compulsory kindergarten by 1970. This alone will bring in about 700 extra students, he said.

Also, with the building of the two latest new schools, the district has exhausted its bonding power.

The plan is not meant as a pattern for another district, he said.

Gove explained to the board that some type of data processing service would be needed to implement the plan. He said a meeting had been arranged Friday with officials of the Honeywell Co. of Minneapolis and the Lewis College data processing center to investigate the possibility of a cooperational statistical tabulating service.

Gove said he also had met with the division of finance of the state Office of Public Instruction in Springfield and other agencies to work out a financial package to determine just what the plan would cost.

Initiation of the year around program would save the district the cost of 60 additional classrooms, he explained.

He said there is a possibility of funds being available from a federal aid program or from foundation grants.

Dr. George Thomas, in charge of education research for the state of New York, has shown great interest in the plan. Gove said Dr. Thomas is well known for his research and writing of extended year plans for enrichment programs.

"Perhaps Illinois and New York can work together as a team on this plan," commented Gove.

Research assistant Page presented facts from a staff survey conducted voluntarily at a teacher's workshop Oct. 25.

A total of 130 meaningful questionnaires were returned, he said. Of the 35 responses from men teachers, 23 preferred a 225 - day schedule, 10 preferred a 180 - day schedule, two preferred not to teach under a year plan, and no men wanted a working year of less than 180 days.

Of the women teachers, 68 said they preferred 180 - day working year, 26 women preferred to teach on the same schedule that the pupils would attend, 17 favored a 225-day year, three preferred a 90-day year and four preferred not to work on the year-around plan.

The administration asked that any organization interested in hearing more about the plan call the office to arrange a meeting.

School officials plan to work with PTO and other school organizations to set up "coffee klatches" when school resumes in January to reach parents in the community.

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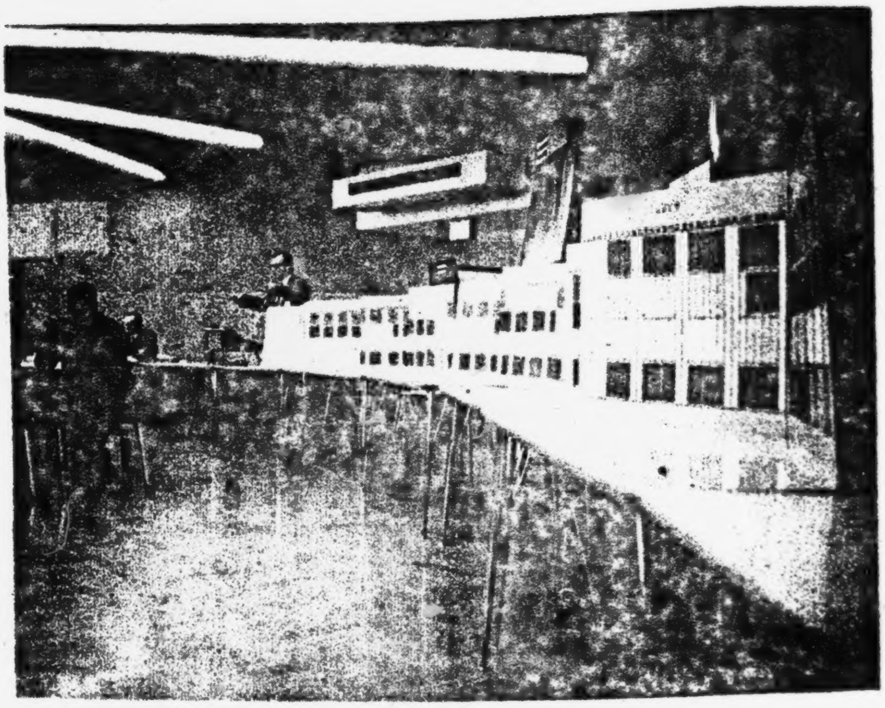

THE VALLEY VIEW 45-15 PLAN AND HOW IT WORKS

A partial answer to how the Valley View 45-15 Year Around School Plan works is shown in the 28-foot chart-calendar displayed at a conference of community leaders at West View Jr. High School last Friday. Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen, at the far end of the chart-calendar, explains some of the computerized scheduling refinements worked into the plan.

Other members of the administrative team and the board of education were on hand to explain the plan and answer questions. Approximately 50 guests attended.

The 45-15 Plan is scheduled to start in the summer of 1970. This system, it was emphasized, was born out of necessity. There are presently about 5000 students in the District 96 school system. With compulsory kindergarten scheduled for next year, and the influx of new students moving into the district, the projected 1970-71 school population is over 7200 students. Since the school is bonded out (cannot borrow any more additional money to build the schools needed to house the additional two thousand students) it was necessary to look for other alternatives. Some of these alternatives would be half-day or double sessions, or up to 70 students to a classroom.

Under the plan students will divided into four approximately even tracks. Students from the same families will be in the same tracks unless otherwise requested by the parents. The plan will start with one of the tracks starting school on a given day. Fifteen school days later the second track starts school. Fifteen school days after that the third track starts. After fifteen more school days the fourth track starts, and at that time the first track starts a fifteen school day vacation. This sequence keeps repeating itself, so that at any given time one fourth of the students are not in school, thereby allowing for the housing of 33 percent more students in the same facilities.

District 96 Explains 45-15 School Year Plan

District 96 board of education and administrators presented their 45-15 continuous school year plan March 13 to a cross section of 60 community leaders.

Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent, and other district administrators explained the necessity of looking at this type of plan as a solution to overcrowding conditions that will exist in the district in 1970.

Superintendent Hermansen noted that the district does not have and will not have the bonding power to construct the needed school facilities to handle the population growth for 1970. He cited that the board and administration is committed to do everything possible to guarantee the District 96 children a full day of education 180 days per year.

At the conclusion of the graphic and visual presentation, Harold Lindstrom, vice president of the board, chaired questions submitted by the audience. Lindstrom asked the audience how many would support the district adopting the 45-15 plan. An estimated 97 per cent responded they would be in favor of it.

Administration asked for invitations to speak on the 45-15 plan. Any organization or neighborhood group wishing a presentation is asked to call the district office at 838-7506.

Hampton Park Herald
March 26, 1969

Page 2 GRAPHIC NEWSPAPERS Wednesday, April 23, 1969 ****

District 96 School Board Hears Progress Report

By Louise Schaller

Robert Shoop, architect's representative, informed board members that items of repair at Brook View School were nearly all completed during the Easter holiday. Ridge View School is on schedule. Shoop said that he has installed some acoustical material in the gym at West View Junior High and asked the board to inspect it.

William Dragovan was named dean of boys at West View. Three teachers resigned from the same building. They are Theresa Stark, Charles Hayes, and Dolores Carroll.

Lunch prices will be increased from 30 to 35 cents at all schools except the Junior High which will be increased from 35 to 40 cents. Adult lunches will be increased from 50 to 55 cents.

Concert band members were given permission to travel to Traverse City, Mich., for the annual Cherry Blossom Festival. They will leave July 8 and return July 12. All costs will be paid by the band parents group. The group will play several concerts and visit the Interlochen Music Camp.

Grass cutting bid was awarded to two bidders with identical bids of $7 per acre.

James Gove, administrative assistant, would like all interested groups to contact him and arrange to hear the details of the 45-15 plan. Gove may be contacted at the office of the district.

James Bingle, trustee, spoke of the possibility of some boundary changes in DuPage County. He said there was a possibility that some Naperville High School students would be obliged to enroll at District 205 Lockport West High School.

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The Beacon

May 21, 1969

Dist.96 - St. Andrew's School Boards Meet To Discuss Shared Time

A meeting between administrators and school board members of School District 96 and St. Andrew's Parish School was held Monday to explore how, if at all, 7th and 8th graders of St. Andrew's could fit into the Valley View 45-15 Plan under the present dual enrollment.

St. Andrew's school personnel explained that if participation could continue, it would be on the basis of St. Andrew's students participating in the shared time program remaining on a 9-month school year.

Numerous problems of not only scheduling, but possible feelings of being discriminated against by non-parochial school parents who would also want their children continued on the traditional 9 month plan instead of the 45-15 Plan, were discussed by the administrators.

Both groups will continue to study the matter, and will meet again before the end of the year to see what can be worked out.

At present, 7th and 8th grade St. Andrew's students participate in gym, math, science, and some elective classes at West View Jr. High, and take the rest of their academic and religious studies at St. Andrew's School.

BOARD-DISTRICT 96 TEACHERS ASSSOCIATION REACH AGREEMENT ON SALARIES

The wage and salary differences between the board of education and teachers of School District 96 have been settled. The announcement was made by Bruce Webster, president of the board, at their Monday meeting.

The prepared joint statement of the board and the Educational Association is as follows:

"At 7:00 p.m. on Friday, July 11, 1969, the Board of Education, the negotiating team of the Educational Association of District #96, met to finalize a salary and fringe benefit package. After approximately three hours of deliberation, a mutually agreeable package was developed. With the cooperation of the Association and the Board, this package will be mailed to each certificated employee during the coming week.

The dollar amount of the package falls somewhat short of that proposed by the fact-finders, but incorporates a structure that exhibits greater equity to a greater number of staff members.

The fringe benefit package was accepted as originally agreed upon by both parties.

The fact-finders recommended that a referendum be held to increase the educational and building fund rates as soon as possible. All parties concerned will take this recommendation under advisement & jointly work toward its implementation.

A portion of the agreement calls for the establishment of an educational "round table" consisting of teachers, administrators and board members. Recognizing that many educational problems can be solved by board members, administrators, and teachers working together, this group will convene regularly to informally discuss such problems. A need for this type of a forum was felt by all engaged in the negotiation process. It is felt that this will lead to even greater mutual understanding and cooperation."

The board did not release either the dollar amounts finally agreed upon, nor the report of the fact-finders, which was refused to the press at the previous meeting. The board did not indicate whether the "round table" discussions are to be open or closed sessions.

Resignations of three teachers and one counselor were accepted, and twelve new teachers were hired.

Business manager Paul Swinford's request that the budget hearing, scheduled for that evening, be postponed to August 25th was approved. He said that in view of the new salary schedule, and the difference in state aid from what had been expected, the tentative budget was in need of review.

Raymond Hill, who was unofficially hired as assistant business manager several weeks ago, was officially approved for the post.

James Gove reported that summer library circulation had more than doubled over previous use.

Gove also reported that application had been made for a $48,000 federal grant on researching the impact of the Valley View 45-15 Year Around School Plan, which is expected to be implemented next year. He informed the board that legislation passed by the State at its recent session cleared the way legally for implementation of the 45-15 Plan. Some adjustment in that calendar will have to be made, he said, after full information on the holiday plan to be adopted by the state is confirmed.

Letters had been written to a number of musical instrument suppliers inquiring why they had not submitted bids for band instruments requested by the school. Two dealers replied that they had not bid due to the time factor. The Lockport Music Center replied that due to their past low bids to the school, larger competitors had pressured the Kahn Music Co. to refuse to sell instruments to them. The letter stated that they are hoping to be handling another brand of band instruments, and hope to do business with the school again.

School Board Asks O. K.

For Year-round School

School District 96 took their first official step last Monday to implement the "45-15 Valley View Plan" year-round school system when the board of education directed the superintendent to apply for permission to inaugurate it next year.

At the meeting of the board of education, Kenneth Hermansen was directed to make formal application to the office of the state superintendent of public instruction to start the new plan on the 30th of June, 1970.

Under the "45-15" Plan there will be four equally divided "tracks" of students. Each "track" will be in school for 45 school days, and then off for 15 school days. Each "track" will start 15 school days appart when the program is initiated, with the first group taking their fifteen school days vacation as the 4th group starts their initial 45 school days at the school. After this, twenty-five percent of the students will be out of school at all times, thereby allowing 33 1/3% more utilization of the schools.

For the past year school officials have been appearing before various groups to explain how the new system will function. Acceptance of the Plan by the public has generally been excellent.

In other board action a policy change raised the rates for use of the schools by outside organizations. These rates are applicable only when a janitor is, not normally present, and must be paid overtime to be at the school.

Non-profit organizations within the district will be charged $7.50 per hour, profit making organizations within the district $15 per hour; Non-profit outside orgainizations $15; and outside profit making organizations, $30.

Two teacher resignations were received and accepted. One was from John Temple, who headed the Teachers' Organization for the past two years. Nine new teachers were hired.

Only one bid came in on a proposed building for the new buses. The bid of $64,304 was about twenty thousand above expectations. The architect will negotiate with this bidder to try to find ways to cut this cost.

The board secretary was directed to write letters to the Alexander Construction Co. and the Romeoville Village Board about the lack of sidewalks on several blocks near the yet unfinished Ridge View School. Board member Robert Noethen said that Mayor O'Hara told him there would be no sidewalks in the areas under question. Other school board members reported that the previous village board in Romeoville had said there would be sidewalks in those locati

The Beacon
August 13, 1969
Page 1

Joliet Herald-News - August 16, 1969

Interesting experiment

The entire area, much of the state as well, will be watching with interest as plans develop for the Valley View School District to have a continuous school year.

With schools at all levels becoming ever more expensive as well as necessary, how to best utilize facilities, time and personnel has come more and more into discussion.

Industry faced up to this problem long ago, realizing that equipment and facilities will produce so much in so many hours. The decision had to be made on whether to build additions and obtain more equipment, or whether to use the same equipment more hours. More personnel, or course, is involved in either case.

In the long run industry has found that using the same equipment and building facilities more hours is economically more feasible in most cases.

It will be interesting to watch the Valley View program and learn all possible from it.

Year-around school plans await approval by state

ROMEOVILLE — Final plans for the year-around school schedule are being presented for approval to the State Office of Public Instruction in Springfield today.

Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent, and two assistants announced the readiness of the plans for final approval at the Valley View School District Board meeting Monday night.

James Gove, administrative assistant, reported that plans to install telephone lines to carry television programs from Westview Junior High School to Parkview School are progressing. Leon H. Hyatt of Hyatt Electronics has agreed to do the installation work for the nominal fee of $1. Illinois Bell Telephone Co. has not yet submitted its cost for line installation.

Three new teachers hired are David Frazer, industrial arts at Westview; Frank Perino, music at Westview; and Sandra Butchart, first grade at Brookview School. Enrollment this year for all schools totals 5,292.

A letter from the Village of Bolingbrook stated that due to a lack of tax money, the village would cease paying for a crossing guard at Illinois 53 and the overpass effective Oct. 1. School districts are prohibited by law from hiring crossing guards when a village or city exists.

Contracts were awarded to Compumatics to erect a steel prefabricated building for maintenance and housing of buses at a cost of $48,000 ($16,000 less than a previously rejected bid,) and to Ben B. Cabay Co. of Joliet for foundation repairs at Westview.

Joliet Herald News
September 9, 1969

Report Monday on 45-15 plan

ROMEOVILLE — On the agenda of the board of education of Valley View School District 96 Monday night will be an up-to-date progress report on the 45-15 school plan for an extended school year.

The board will present the official results from the first staff survey held Oct. 25.

The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at Parkview School.

Carrying 45-15 To State

By LOUISE SCHALLER

ROMEOVILLE -- The 45-15 school plan is ready to be submitted for state's approval, reported Ken Hermansen, District 96 Schools' superintendent, at last week's meeting.

He and two of his assistants, James Gove and Paul Swinford, were to go to Springfield and meet with the officers from the state office of public instruction regarding the plan.

Gove, administrative assistant, said progress has been made on the plans for installing telephone lines between West View Junior High and Park View. These lines will carry closed circuit TV instruction.

Leon Hyatt of Hyatt Electronics offered to install the necessary equipment for $1 becuase he is interested in this educational project.

Gove reported that Illinois Bell Telephone Company has not responded to his request for cost figures on the line installation.

Compumatics Inc. was awarded the bid to erect a steel prefabricated building to be used for housing and maintaining the district school buses. Cost is $48,000 excluding the water and sewer lines. The board said this is $16,000 below the previous bid which they had rejected.

Foundation repairs at West View Junior High will be done by Cabay Construction.

Robert Shoop, architect's representative, gave a progress report on the schools of the district. Ridge View in Hampton Park opened Sept. 1 as promised. Minor items need to be completed. Air conditioning in classrooms is completed at Valley View. Boiler room at Valley View is now being air conditioned. Acoustical work has been completed in the West View gym.

Zoning and planning board will meet Sept. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Civic Center with Romeoville trustees regarding the zoning of the garage facility reported Attorney Eugene Korst.

Adoption of the school levy was discussed and tabled for the next session.

Enrollment for the six district schools is 5,292 students including 84 special education students. Valley

(Continued on Page 28)

Tax Could Cover Bonds

By GLENN LOGAN

NEW LENOX -- With no market for its revenue bonds and facing an ultimatum by the State Water Board to expand and improve its sewage treatment plant, the New Lenox Village board has adopted an ordinance setting Oct. 4 as the date of a referendum on a $300,000 issue of general obligation bonds.

These bonds would carry an interest rate not to exceed seven per cent.

The village of New Lenox has been attempting to sell $1,200,000 in revenue bonds for the past year to finance a central water system as well as enlarge and improve the sewerage treatment plant.

The State Water Board is well acquainted with the plight of New Lenox and its members sympathize but fact remains that the treatment plant is inadequate and until the necessary improvements are made any further building is stymied.

Before sewer lines can be extended to serve new areas or present areas, it was pointed out, the developer or the municipality must get approval from the State Water Board. And what the water board is saying now, according to communications re-

(Continued on Page 28)

(Continued from Page 1)

View has 967 students; Brook View, 451; North View, 939; Park View, 1,314; Ridge View, 438; and West View Junior High, 1,183.

Six fire extinguishers valued at $25 each were taken from buses at North View School in Bolingbrook over the weekend.

Saturday was the first day the school gate was unlocked for the public's use of the blacktop area for recreational purposes. An agreement between the Bolingbrook village board and the school board states the facility will be available on a 30 day trial basis.

A discussion ensued on the payment of a crossing guard in the Bolingbrook area. According to the board, the Bolingbrook village officials did not levy for such payment although last year they told the school board they would do so this year. Bolingbrook has one paid crossing guard at Rt. 53 and Briarcliff Rd

School board will notify Bolingbrook officials they will cease paying the guard after Oct. 1. According to law, school boards are not permitted to pay crossing guards in villages. This is to be paid for by the villages. Romeoville village board has been paying the crossing guards in its area.

Three teachers were hired. David Frazer will teach industrial arts and Frank Perino music at West View while Sandra Butchart will teach first grade at Brook View Scho

THE SOUTH WEST
GRAPHIC

SEPTEMBER 17, 1969

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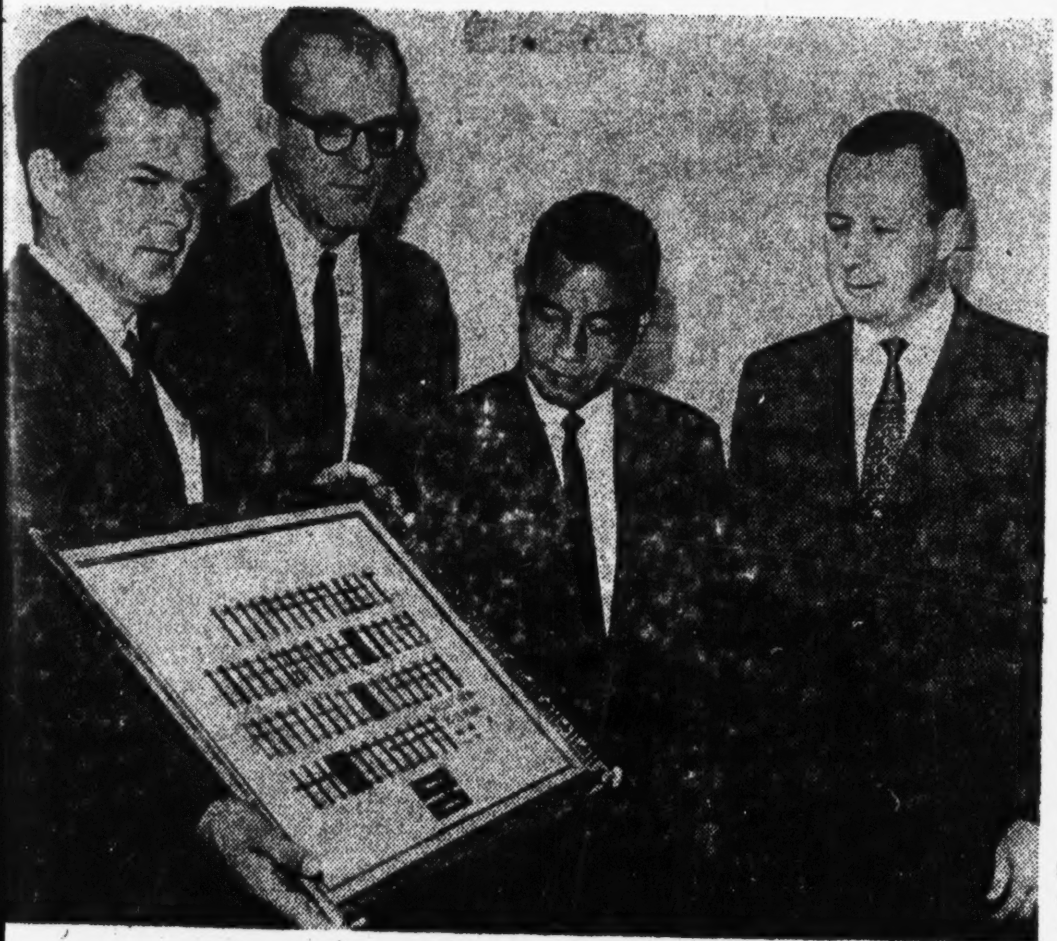

(Herald-News Phot

GIFT PRESENTED TO GUAM EDUCATORS
Bingle, Hermansen, Guiterrez and Tennessen

Joliet Herald-News
October 9, 1969
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Guam educators study Valley View schools

By **DOROTHY CRYDER**
Staff Writer

ROMEOVILLE — Two educators from Guam, Richard Tennessen, deputy superintendent of the education department, and Tas Gutierrez, board of education member, were guests of Valley View District Wednesday.

The educators were investigating the possibilities of initiating Valley View's proposed continuous school year plan in Guam, which is all one school district.

"We are very much interested in this plan because our district is quite similar to Valley View District in terms of growth and financing," Tennessen said. "It is also the only plan we have heard about that utilizes building facilities to the fullest."

Tennessen said the total enrollment is about 22,000 in Guam's 30 public schools.

"For the last five years, the enrollment has increased over 1,000 students each year," Tennessen noted. "With compulsory kindergarten beginning next year in Guam as it does in Illinois, the increase in students will be about 2,200," he said.

The government of Guam provides education for all children on Guam, Tennessen explained.

There are 22 elementary schools on Guam, he said, one of which is solely for exceptional, academically handicapped, children.

Grades seven through nine are taught in five junior high schools.

The two secondary schools are comprehensive high schools offering the same course work found in mainland schools.

Guam also has a high school offering craftsman courses for young men interested in entering the trades and technical work.

The government employs about 1,400 teachers and administrators, Tennessen said. The school calendar year is similar to that found in the states, with school opening shortly after Labor Day and closing the first week of June.

The Guam legislature appointed the two educators to come to the U.S. to discover as much as possible about continuous school year plans.

Valley View District was the seventh stop they have made in a month's time and has the only plan that is district-wide, Tennessen said.

"The other plans have been initiated for improved education rather than utilization of facilities," noted Tennessen.

A Valley View Board member, James Bingle, presented Tennessen and Gutierrez with a framed picture of the school calendar plan on behalf of the district.

The plan was drafted by Supt. Kenneth Hermansen; James Gove, administrative assistant to the superintendent; John Lukancic, assistant superintendent, and Patrick Page, research assistant.

The plan is a scheduling system that utilizes school facilities throughout the whole year, Hermansen explained.

The pupil population is divided into four equal groups.

Each of the four groups of pupils will attend 45 class days and then have 15 class days vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each of the groups, at any one time only three of the groups will be attending on any one class day.

The four groups always stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group will attend classes 180 days, four sessions of 45 days per session. The target date for the plan to begin is June 30, 1970.

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45-15 Plan is Official

A resolution was formally passed by the District 96 Board of Education to officially adopt the Valley View 45 - 15 Continuous School Year Plan. The plan will go into effect next June 30th and, as set forth in the resolution, will continue through August 15th, 1971.

The board also adopted a rental policy on having air conditioning on in the rooms rented by various organizations. All organizations using the schools, and wishing the space used air conditioned, will be charged a flat $5.00 fee for rooms, and $10 for the little theatre. Rental fees for use of school facilities were recently raised. An organization using a school facility, and charging admission fees, must pay a $15.00 per hour rental fee.

The Board approved a resolution to allow the sale of tax anticipation warrants in the amount of $1,335,000. A resolution was also approved on the supplemental State Aid reinbursement, raising the sum to be received by the school district by $293,000.

VISITORS FROM GUAM

SEEK INFORMATION ON VALLEY VIEW PLAN

Visiting educators from out of state are nothing new in the District 96 Schools. In fact, educators from far off lands seeking educational information are not a novelty either. Last week two educators from the distant Pacific island of Guam came to the schools to investigate the "Valley View Continuous School Year Plan", better known locally as the "45 - 15 Plan".

Richard Tennessen, the deputy superintendent of Guams Education Department explained that the island had one board of education and 30 schools, now growing at the rate of about 1000 students per year. A total school population of 22,000 now attend the elementary school system, he explained.

Mr. Tas Guitierrez, a member of the Guam Board of Education, explained that they, like the Valley View system, have growing pains and must find methods of coping with the increased number of students in a limited number of buildings. This is the reason the Guam legislature appointed the two men to go to the main-land and find out about the new plan

to be initiated by District to be initiated by School District 96 next year.

Under the "45-15 Plan" the students in the district are divided into four near equal groups. Starting next June, just one of the four groups will enter school. After 15 school days the second group comes in, after fifteen more school days the third group, and after 15 more school days the fourth group starts, and then the first group starts a 15 school day vacation. Under this system one-fourth of the students are always out of school, thus realizing a 33% factor greater school utilization. The plan has attracted the attention of educators all over the country.

Basically, the plan was designed as a cooperative measure by several men. They are Ken Hermansen, superintendent; Jim Gove, admin. assistant; Pat Page, research ass't.; and John Lukancic, assistant supt.

James Bingle of the District 96 Board of Education, presented the two visitors with a framed visually demarked calender which illustrates the "Plan"

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Joliet Herald-News
October 16, 1969
Page 1

Romeoville school plan not affected by bill veto

ROMEOVILLE — Gov. Richard B. Oglivie's veto of a bill to permit school districts to operate on a full year plan will not affect the Valley View School District's year around plan, a spokesman for the governor said today.

The veto removed the option of any school district to operate only one or more schools within the district on a full year school plan, but will have no effect on a full school year plan adopted on a district-wide basis, the spokesman said.

"The Valley View School District plan is unique in that it is the first time such a plan has been inaugurated for a complete district," said Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent for the district.

Hermansen and James Gove, administrative assistant to the superintendent, drove to Springfield today to clarify the status of their year around school plan.

"We have been assured by the governor's office that we will be able to proceed on schedule with the initiation of our plan," Hermansen said today.

The pioneer venture to utilize school facilities throughout the entire year was developed by the school administration and presented to the public in November 1968.

The venture, called Plan 45-15, was drafted by Hermansen, Gove, John Lukancic, assistant superintendent, and Patrick Page, research assistant.

"The alternative to a 12-month school year would be 70 pupils to a class or double sessions," Hermansen pointed out.

"We cannot build more buildings," he explained, "because the district has exhausted its bonding power."

Hermansen added that compulsory kindergarten by 1970 will bring in about 700 extra students alone. Normal rate of growth for the rapidly expanding district will swell the student enrollment by at least another 300, he said.

The scheduling system for the plan divides the pupil population into four equal groups.

Each of the four groups of pupils will attend 45 class days and then have 15 class days vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each of the groups, only three of the groups will be attending on any one class day.

The four groups always stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group will attend classes 180 days, four sessions of 45 days per session.

Valley View District is one of the largest elementary districts in the state with over 5,000 students now enrolled and 7,000 anticipated for 1970-71.

Target date for the plan to begin is June 30, 1970.

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Ponder Change to 12-Month School Terms

THE TRIB Mon., Oct. 20, 1969 NW 3

By BRUCE SMITH

Du Page county educators are meeting today to consider 12-month school sessions and the forming of unit and coterminous districts. It could affect when you take a vacation as well as your tax bill.

What is a 12-month school year? What are unit and coterminous school districts? Are they an answer to burgeoning school enrollments and rising costs?

Du Page county school superintendents and boards of education hope to get some answers about 12-month school programs today at a seminar in Glenbard East High school, Lombard.

Three of the speakers scheduled to lead workshops at the seminar's afternoon session will be from Valley View Elementary School district 96 in Will county.

Monday, the board of district 96 adopted a 12-month school year. Called the 45-15 plan, it is to become effective June 30.

District 96 adopted the 12-month plan out of necessity. The district's bonding power is exhausted and it was faced with either a 12-month school year or split shifts.

The district was formed 17 years ago with 13 pupils. It now has 5,500. Taxes are at the legal limit.

The district serves the incorporated areas of Romeoville and Bolingbrook and surrounding unincorporated areas. Some of its junior high school graduates attend Naperville High school.

The 45-15 plan divides the pupils into four groups with three-fourths of the pupils attending school at any one time.

Under the plan, pupils attend school for 45 class days and then have 15 class days off. Additional vacation time is scheduled for the normal holidays.

The district is considering offering $10,000 a year to beginning teachers with bachelor's degrees who teach for a 12-month period. They would have 30 days vacation.

District 96 administrators refuse to reveal which school districts have requested information about the 45-15 plan for fear of putting a school board or superintendent on the spot with residents.

They do say, tho, that they have received requests for information from 13 of the 50 states, Canada, and several school districts in the Chicago area.

A team of administrators from the Guam school district visited 96 recently to gather information.

A survey of presidents of boards of education or superintendents of 10 high school districts in Du Page county shows the districts are aware of what a 12-month school year could mean.

The survey also shows the 10 districts are not in a hurry to snap up a "cure" for school growth problems that might, in the long run, be worthless.

The representatives want to know if the

plan will work — most school systems that have adopted similar plans have abandoned them and reverted to the traditional nine-month school year. The objectives of residents have frequently been cited as reasons for scrapping the program.

Another problem Du Page county high school districts are eyeing is the many small elementary districts that feed students to high school districts. Hinsdale, Downers Grove, and Naperville high school districts are especially concerned because many of the feeder districts send pupils to two or more high school districts.

The school districts in south Du Page county are studying a school boundary report completed last spring by Indiana university.

That report lists the pros and cons of forming unit or coterminous school districts across the south end of Du Page county. (Du Page county does not have a unit district.)

Informal meetings have been held between representatives of Hinsdale and Downers Grove High school districts to discuss feeder districts shared by the two. No decisions have been made according to authorities.

For the two high school districts to form unit or coterminous districts, elementary districts feeding students into the two would have to be split or moved entirely into one of the districts.

There is a similar problem between Downers Grove and Naperville High school districts. The Naperville High School district's problem is compounded by sharing two feeder districts with a Will county high school district.

Bensenville Elementary School district 2 and Fenton High School district 100 in north Du Page county agreed last week to study forming a unit school district. All of district 100 is included in two elementary districts district 2 and Wood Dale Elementary School district 7.

The study also is to determine whether districts 2 and 100 should continue having one superintendent and one business manager for both districts.

Coterminous districts have identical Boundaries but separate boards of education for the high school and elementary school districts. There are two such districts in Du Page county, Wheaton and Lisle. The only unit district in the western suburbs is Elmwood Park district 401.

State, county, and school district education authorities predict that a current trend to larger elementary school districts will continue and there will be more coterminous and unit districts created in the process.

The are about 50 fewer school districts in Illinois this year than last, according to authorities.

One problem that does not affect the high school districts in central and north Du Page is elementary districts that send pupils to two or more high school districts.

Several school officials said they are studying the formation of unit districts thru combining their feeder districts into one elementary school district.

One big problem seen by the educational authorities in these high school districts is the lack of bonding power allowed unit districts.

Under Illinois statutes, unit districts may issue bonds for up to 5 per cent of the districts total assessed valuation. But separate districts serving the same territory have a total bonding power of 10 per cent of the assessed valuation — 5 per cent for each district.

The authorities in these districts say they are anticipating that the Constituional Convention will change this thru overhaul of the revenue provisions to allow unit districts to issue bonds up to 10 per cent.

A few said that if the change is made, they would immediately seek formation of unit districts to take advantage of state aid provisions.

The Lisle school board districts receive an extra $120,000 yearly in state aid because the elementary and high school districts are coterminous. According to the district's superintendent, Raymond L. Miller, Lisle would receive $120,000 more if it were a unit district.

Miller said the district probably would change to a unit district if not for the present 5 per cent limit on the bonding power of unit districts.

Veto Doesn't Hurt Valley View Plan

ROMEOVILLE -- The Valley View School District's year-round plan will not be affected by Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie's veto of a bill to permit school districts to operate on a full year plan, a spokesman for the governor said today.

The spokesman said the veto removed the option of any school district to operate only one or more schools within the district on a full year school plan, but will have no effect on a full year school plan adopted on a district-wide basis.

Kenneth Hermanson, superintendent for the district, and James Gove, his administrative assistant, went to Springfield to clarify the status of Valley View's plan. Hermansen said they were assured by the governor's office that they would be able to proceed on schedule with the initiation of their plan.

The target date for the plan is June 30, 1970.

Southwest Graphic
October 22, 1969
Page 4

THE JOLIET HERALD NEWS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1969

Valley View officials to head panel program

ROMEOVILLE — The Illinois School Board Association has asked Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent of the Valley View District, James Gove, administrative assistant, and a school board member to appear at the association's annual meeting Nov. 24 at the Sherman House in Chicago.

They will present a panel program on "Plan 45-15" — Valley View District's continuous school year plan.

The plan divides the pupil population into four equal groups. Each of the four groups of pupils will attend 45 class days and have 15 class days vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each of the groups, at any one time only three of the groups will be attending on any one class day. The four groups always stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group will attend classes 180 days, four sessions of 45 days per session.

The plan will be put into effect June 30, 1970, and will run until Aug. 16, 1971, for the first school year, Hermansen said.

Board President Bruce Webster volunteered to attend the meeting with the administrators.

Hermansen, Gove and a board member also were asked to present a panel program on Plan 45-15 at 8 p.m. Nov. 14 on radio station WAJP-FM. Board member James Bingle volunteered to attend.

In further business, the board:

— Approved a bid for $5,300 from Compumatics for sewer facilities for the bus maintenance building.

— Granted permission to the Spartans for the annual athletic banquet Nov. 15 for a fee of $7.50 an hour for custodian.

— Granted permission to New Life Lutheran Church to use school basketball facilities pursuant to board policy.

The Beacon
October 29, 1969 Pg. 6

To Present 45 - 15 Program

Two administrators of School Dist. 96 have been invited to present a program on the 45-15 Plan to the Illinois School Board Association at their annual meeting in Chicago November 24th.

Kenneth Hermansen, the dist. superintendent, and James Gove, administrative assistant, will present a panel program on the new all-year school program the district will inaugurate next June.

The two administrators have also been asked to present a panel program on the Plan over Joliet Radio Station WAJP-FM.

They will appear on a broadcast, along with a board member, Mr. James Bingle.

HERALD-NEWS
Will-Grundy-Kendall Section
Joliet, Illinois, Wednesday, November 5, 1969

Study Valley View plan for year-round program

ROMEOVILLE — Valley View School District's year-round school plan has moved into another phase of planning. Ronald N. Strahanoski, curriculum coordinator, is working with two committees of district personnel to work out the day-to-day operations under the Valley View Plan 45-15 continuous school schedule.

The principals' committee, composed of William Dikeman, Lillie Eneix, Ronald Fagan, Frank Kolinski, Verne Shelley and Dave Pauley, is working on various administrative details.

The committee is also studying teacher scheduling so as to best utilize the abilities of all staff members. Storage of teacher and pupil supplies while students and/or teachers are on the 15-day vacation is a problem to be solved.

The organization needed to provide for a change of classrooms each 45-day period is another area to be worked out. Needed curricular changes in the area of teaching methods: cooperative teaching, team teaching and individualization of student's work are being studied.

The teachers' committee is composed of representatives from each building. Carolyn Pell and Ruth Leddy represent Brook View School. North View School's representatives are Therese Castiglioni, Karen Roberts and Mary Synold. Ruth Ennis, Ann Puetz, Norma West, Marjorie Cole, and Robert English are working with the Park View School staff.

Ridge View's faculty has Patricia Jones and Cynthia Studer as its liaison representatives. Phyllis Chopp, Lynn Anderson and Grace Beaudoin represent Valley View School and Hilda Miller, David Zeiger, William Jenkins and Patricia Miller are the delegates for West View Junior High.

The teachers committee is attempting to discover and solve problems teachers may encounter in adjusting to the continuous school schedule.

Both committees are taking a good look at the present curriculum. The change to a new schedule is an excellent opportunity for study. The curriculum study has begun with the premise that a school calendar has been changed. From that point the present curriculum is being studied to see how it can fit into the new schedule.

A spokesman for the curriculum committees said that change is not going to be made for the sake of change. Yet Plan 45-15 schedule affords an opportune time to identify curricular problems for a system-wide study and organizing the means and arrangements for this study has been one of the first items on which the curriculum committees have been working.

With the advent of Plan 45-15, both committees are studying the district's present educational objectives. All attempts will be made for the improvement of organization, content, and procedures for teaching various academic areas.

The committees hope to introduce into the curriculum significant content needed for modern living in the space age of the seventies.

Uppermost in this phase of planning for the 45-15 continuous school plan is the desire to provide the best possible education for the boys and girls of the Valley View School District.

Suburban educators favor year-round plan

By Chris Svare

Representatives of nine northwest suburban high schools studying the possibility of operating 12 months a year recently returned from Atlanta, where a year-round schedule is in effect.

What they saw during their three days of observing a four-quarter system for grades 8 through 12 convinced them that the advantages outweighed the disadvantages.

Under the 12-month plan, students may choose to attend any three quarters or all four.

Suburban schools studying the plan are in District 211, with three schools serving 8,000 students in Palatine, Schaumburg and Hoffman Estates, and in District 214, with six schools serving 15,000 students in parts of Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect, Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove Village, Des Plaines, Rolling Meadows and Prospect Heights.

No money-saver

The 13-man study team was particularly interested in finding out whether Atlanta's year-round system made better use of facilities. They found it did but that it is not a money saver.

"Atlanta said it's not designed to save money," said Dr. Roderick C. McLennan, assistant superintendent of District 214 and group leader.

A major additional cost, he said, is for air conditioning in the summer to prevent sluggishness in students and teachers.

Atlanta is financing the four-quarter system with higher taxes, McLennan said. The schools also benefit from proportionately higher state aid than do districts 211 and 214 in Illinois.

District 214, which now charges tuition for its six week summer session, is thinking of extending the term to eight weeks next summer — allowing a student to take a morning and afternoon course—and dropping tuition.

But, he said, new state legislation would be necessary for any Illinois high school to go to four quarters.

Reuben M. Conrad, a curriculum co-ordinator for District 214, said one benefit of Atlanta's system is that it allows high school students to choose from more than 800 courses. For example, Atlanta's English program has about 45 courses, including mass media, literature and various composition classes.

"Even if we take our ability-level classes into account, we probably have half as many courses," Conrad said.

Some problems

Atlanta has some scheduling problems, McLennan explained. Not all courses are offered at every school, and classes must be canceled when too few students sign up. A policy of allowing students to attend another school where a desired course is offered is hampered by a court injunction against the city's open enrollment policy, which would allow students to attend the school of their choice.

Another drawback is that a student may find a course he needs to complete a sequence in, say, mathematics, is not offered in a particular quarter.

The advantages

And it also does not reduce the need for construction of new buildings, Atlanta officials said.

But there are more advantages:

Students can choose to attend year-round and perhaps graduate in three years.

Allowing students to take vacations in quarters other than summer eases the problem of finding jobs in the off-time.

It allows teachers to work year-round, take any of the four quarters off or work a two-thirds load one quarter for a proportionate amount of his regular salary.

It acts as a general impetus for change and improvement.

5-year growth

McLennan observed that Atlanta expects that it will take five years before enrollment in the summer is as high as it is in other quarters.

He sees a big problem for District 214 in deciding what parts of the four-quarter system to implement. What was learned in Atlanta, he said, could be applied differently in various schools within the district. For instance, one school might be placed on the year-round system as an experiment.

"But," McClennan emphasized, "one of our biggest problems will be educating people to break with tradition."

Chicago Sun Times
November 10, 1969
Page 34

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Valley View plan—choice of ultimatums

By DOROTHY CRYDER

ROMEOVILLE — "We have no choice," said Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent of the Valley View School District. "We either initiate our proposed continuous school plan, go on multiple sessions, or resort to 70 pupils to a classroom. We cannot build any more buildings; we have exhausted our bonding power.

Hermansen was speaking at a community discussion meeting last week to explain the program to parents and to explore the various implications such a program would have for children and the community.

conditions," Hermansen said. "The compulsory kindergarten law passed by the state will bring at least 700 more students into the district in 1970. Also with the tremendous growth within the community, the district will automatically pick up 300 to 400 extra students."

The continuous school year program, called Plan 45-15 by the district, was drafted by Hermansen; James Gove, administrative assistant to the superintendent; John Lukancic, assistant superintendent, and Patrick Page, research assistant.

"This plan is the result of researching 16 types of extended school year programs," Gove said. "It is meant only for our district to meet our particular needs and not as a master plan for any other school.

"The plan is very simple," Gove said. "The pupil population is divided into four equal parts, A, B, C and D. Children in the same family are always placed in the same time schedule unless parents request otherwise."

He and research assistant Page explained the calendar which is made up for the next five years. Legal holidays, Saturdays and Sundays, a full week at Christmas, Easter and at least one week in July have been designated as times when the school would be closed.

Each of the four groups of pupils would attend class 45 days and have 15 class days vacation. But, by staggering starting dates of each group, Gove explained, at any one time only three of the groups would be attending classes on any one class day.

"Because of the large pupil population, class schedule and school calendar, electronic data processing facilities would be necessary for the scheduling," he said.

The four groups would always stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group would attend classes 180 days (four sessions of 45 days per session), Gove explained.

"How important or necessary is it for primary children to have the same teacher for a whole year?" asked one parent. "Would they have one teacher for the first 45 days and another the next 45 days?"

Hermansen said most of the primary teachers would elect to keep the same class for the full 180 days.

"Look at it this way, though," he said. "What effect does it have on a youngster now if he has a teacher for a full school year that he doesn't like?"

"Will this kind of plan be an incentive or a detriment to obtaining new teachers for the district?" a parent asked.

Hermansen said he felt sure it would be an incentive to new teachers when they fully understand the plan. "Never has a teacher had so much flexibility in a schedule," he said.

"They can rotate as their students do, teaching 45 days and taking off 15, or they may elect to teach 180 straight days or the full year with only a 15-day vacation. The choice is entirely up to them. It means that they can now teach fulltime instead of seeking summer employment."

"Will there be regression in learning after a child has attended school 45 days and been home for 15?"

"There is always some regression," Hermansen answered. "It would be about the same as the effects a Christmas vacation has on children, but it certainly will not be as much as our usual three -month's summer vacation."

"What if a child is a slow learner, or is not doing well in class?"

"This kind of scheduling will be greatly to his advantage," Hermansen replied. "If he fails in our present system, he fails for a whole year. With this new scheduling, he would have to repeat only 45 days."

"What happens if my child is in school and other children of the neighborhood are out of school?" asked one mother.

"We have thought of that, Hermansen answered. "We think the most realistic way to schedule would be geographically so that all children in one area would be in school at the same time."

"Who has the final decision of whether or not this plan will be initiated?" another parent asked.

Bruce Webster, president of the board of education for Valley View District, answered:

"It is up to our board to make the final decision," he said. "That is why we are having these community discussion groups. We want to explore the plan together to iron out any weaknesses or difficulties.

"If anyone is interested in having a coffee session at their home to discuss our continuous school plan further, they are invited to call the district office," Webster said.

HERALD-NEWS
Will-Grundy-Kendall Section
Joliet, Illinois, Wednesday, November 12, 1969

Valley View plan draws recognition

ROMEOVILLE—Valley View 45-15 continuous school year plan will be reproduced in part on the cover of Educate Magazine.

The Valley View School Board approved release of the copyright to the magazine which will include a story on the plan.

Jim Gove, administrative assistant to the superintendent, said the administration has heard from 15 states and two foreign countries desiring information on the continuous school plan.

Gove, Supt. Kenneth Hermansen, board member James Bingle and Robert Norfleet of Compumatics Educational Services will be participants in a panel program on Joliet's WAJP-FM from 8 to 9 p.m. Friday. Listeners will have an opportunity to phone in questions to the district representatives.

In other business architect Robert Shoop said he had inspected Brook View School last week, which is complete except for some painting and patching work.

He said his inspection would be completed this week at Ridge View School.

Shoop said there were still some problems with vents in the air conditioning system at Valley View School, but it was hoped to have them operating properly in a few days.

The board asked Shoop to check West View's Little Theater exit. The domed roof does not adequately divert water and it is impossible to use the exit after a heavy rain, Supt. Hermansen said.

In other action the board:

—Approved the original amount of [illegible] offered for land easement on Normantown Road project.

—Hired three additional employes as cafeteria help.

—Approved Romeoville Jaycees using West View's Little Theater and 10 classrooms in order to bid for television taping for Illinois Jaycees and Kup's Show on human relations.

—Accepted a resolution for articulation between elementary school districts which feed into Lockport High School District.

—Approved a resolution for unanimous approval and support of bond referendum and tax rate increase proposed by Lockport High School District Board.

District 68 Told of Costs for 12-Month School Term

Preliminary reports indicate a year-round school operation in Goodrich-Woodridge Elementary School district 68 would increase the district's educational fund costs about 5 per cent above expenditures in the traditional nine-month school year.

The report, the third of three in a study by Thomas Tousignant, district 68 superintendent, and Mrs. Dorothy Williams, a former board member and teacher, was given at the school board meeting last week.

The hypothetical year-round operation used in the study is the 45-15 plan being put into use June 30, 1970, by Valley View Elementary School district 96 in Will county. The district includes Bolingbrook, Romeoville, and unincorporated areas.

Under the 45-15 plan, a district's enrollment is divided into four equal groups with each starting classes at 15-day intervals. Each group attends school for 45 class days and then has 15 class days of vacation. Additional vacations are scheduled for holidays.

Enrollment projections used in the study predict the district 68 enrollment will be 3,750 pupils by September, 1970; 3,900 by June, 1971; and 5,700 at the end of the 1974-75 school year.

The study estimates that the district must add 96 classrooms by January, 1975, to provide adequate facilities for all students in a nine-month school year. This figure could be reduced to 57 if the district adopts a year-round program, the report says.

The study also estimates the district could gain an additional 12,500 pupils if the remaining 5.47 square miles in the 11.49-square-mile district are developed with 11,371 single-family homes. The figures are based on 3.25 single-family building lots per acre.

Now under construction in the district are 293 apartments and 211 single-family homes. Land is available for an additional 967 apartments and an additional 387 single-family homes. Estimates predict total development would house 39 pupils in the apartments and 658 in the single-family homes.

In addition, the 100 acre, $20-million Alvin Kadish apartment and townhouse development proposed for south of Woodridge would house about 400 pupils.

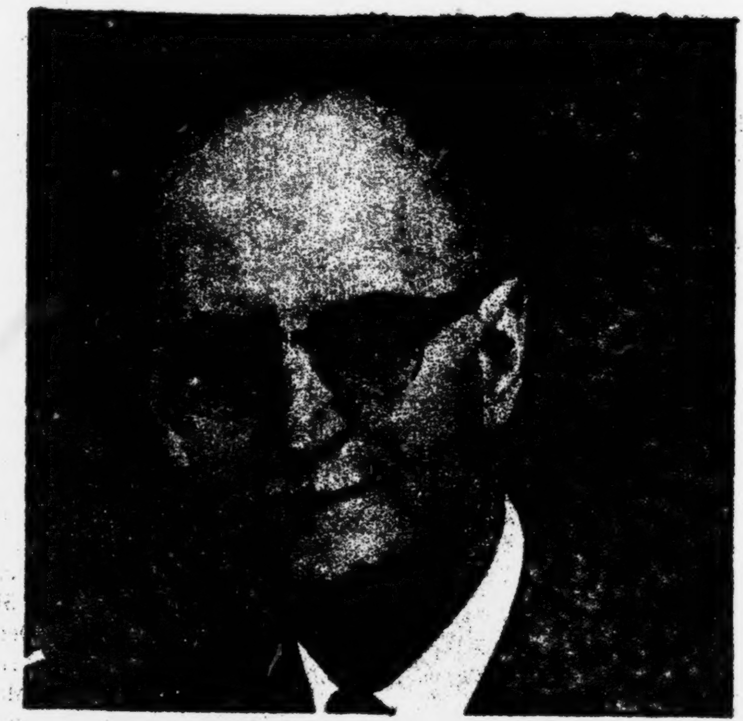
Not considered in the study were effects on the costs of building maintenance, transportation, bonded indebtedness, and the Illinois Municipal Retirement fund.

The study was authorized by the district 68 board in September. Earlier reports considered teachers' reactions to four alternate plans for operating the school district. They were the 45-15 plan, a 60-20 plan, (60 class days in school, then 20 class days on vacation), split shifts, and an extended school day plan.

The board plans no action on the study until it gathers more information about problems and advantages of a revised school year calendar.

THE TRIB Mon., Nov. 17, 1969 SW 9

EDSALL APPOINTED TO BOARD OF EDUCATION



The Beacon
Dec 24, 1969

Erenesto Edsall was the choice of the School District 96 Board of Education to fill the unexpired term of resigned board member William Butchart at Mondays' meeting. One member voted against the choice.

Edsall has served on the District 96 Board for nine years previously. Four years ago he chose to run for the high school board, and being elected served a three year term there. He did not seek re-election because of his dissatisfaction with the discension on that board.

While on the District 96 Board of Education, Edsall served a term as president of the board.

Member Kenneth Kibbler voted against Edsall, not, he said, because Edsall was not qualified, but because he felt the board passed up another possible choice who would have been as good or better than Edsall. Kibler was referring to former board member John Strobbe, who served on the board for six years. It is known that several of the board members did not wish to appoint Strobbe because of personal reasons.

In other action the board accepted a bid of 6% from the First National Bank of Lockport on $1.3 million in tax anticipation warrants. Twenty area and Chicago banks had been invited to bid, but the Lockport Bank was the only one to respond. The bid was readily accepted since the sale of tax anticipation warrants have not gone well due to the tight money market.

Attorney Eugene Korst reported that he and the business manager, Paul Swinford, had meet with the Commonwealth Edison attorney, the county treasuerer and the Will County state's attorney on taxes protested by the utility. Commonwealth Edision, he said, had offered to settle on a 25-75% basis, and he recommended that the offer be accepted if the utility increased the offer from 35 to 50 %.

Robert Norfleet, a representative of Compumatics, consultants to the board on the 45-15 plan, reported that mailings are ready to the parents of students in the district on which track their children will be on. The letters will be mailed next Monday. The 45-15 year around school plan starts next June. It was suggested that parents who may still be unfamiliar with the plan attend the January 15th PTO meeting, where the program will be devoted to the plan.

By a three to two vote George Hassert was elected vice president of the board over James Bingle, who was absent. Since Bingle was absent Hassert declined to vote.

Valley View district maps Year-round class schedule

ROMEOVILLE — Plans of the Valley View School District to begin a year-round school are fast becoming a reality.

On Monday over 3,000 familes in the district are expected to receive a letter from Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent of the district, giving the school schedule for the children in each family. All holidays and vacations also are shown on the calendar enclosed in the letter.

The letter was sent now so that families can plan activities for the coming year and take full advantage of the opportunities of the new school calendar, said Hermansen.

The six schools will be kept open and operating all year long under a plan called the "Valley View 45-15 Plan" which will go into effect June 30, 1970.

The plan was drafted by district administrators, Hermansen, James Gove, administrative assistant to the superintendent, John Lukancic, assistant superintendent, and Patrick Page, research assistant.

The plan is a scheduling system that utilizes school facilities throughout the year, with the pupil population divided into four equal groups.

Each of the four groups of pupils called A, B, C and D, will attend 45 class days and then have 15 class days vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each group, at any one time only three groups will be attending school.

The groups always stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group will attend classes 180 days, four sessions of 45 days each.

Group A will start the 1970-71 school year June 30, 1970, and June 2, 1971. Vacation periods are June 11-29, 1970; Sept. 1-22, 1970; Nov. 28-Dec. 27, 1970, which includes Christmas school closing; March 3-23, 1971; April 3-11, 1971, which includes Easter school closing; and June 3-July 5, 1971, which includes summer school closing. July 6, 1971, will be the start of the second school year for this group.

Group B will start July 21, 1970, and end the school year June 23, 1971. Vacation periods are June 11-July 20, 1970; Sept. 23-Oct. 14, 1970; Dec. 19, 1970-Jan. 18, 1971, which includes Christmas school closing; March 24-April 20, 1971, which includes Easter school closing, and June 24-July 26, 1971, which includes summer school closing. July 27, 1971, will be the start of the second school year for this group.

Group C will start Aug. 11, 1970, and end the school year July 26, 1971. Vacation periods are June 11-Aug. 10, 1970; Oct. 15-Nov. 4, 1970; Dec. 19-Dec. 27, 1970, which includes Christmas school closing; Jan. 19-Feb. 9, 1971; April 3-11, 1971, which includes Easter school closing; April 21-May 11, 1971; June 24-July 5, 1971, which includes summer school closing, and July 27-Aug. 16, 1971. Aug. 17, 1971, will be the start of the second school year for this group.

Group D will start the 1970-71 school year Sept. 1, 1970, and Aug. 16, 1971. Vacation periods are June 11-Aug. 31, 1970; Nov. 5-Nov. 29, 1970; Dec. 19-27, 1970, which includes Christmas school closing; Feb. 10-March 2, 1971. April 3-11, 1971, which includes Easter school closing; May 12-June 2, 1971; June 24-July 5, 1971 which includes summer school closing and Aug. 17-Sept. 7, 1971. Sept. 8, 1971, will be the start of the second school year for this group.

"All Illinois legal holidays also will be observed by school closing," said Page, the research assistant who made up the school calendar for the next five years.

"This is the first real innovation we have had in the education system since 1910 when schools started on nine full months of classes," Page said.

"Our Valley View 45-15 continous school year plan could revolutionize the whole philosophy of education," he added.

Families will receive more information in the coming months, Page said, including information on school buses, school attendance sites and registering children who will begin school for the first time.

There are some [illegible] students enrolled in the district with [illegible] anticipated for 1970-1971.

The six schools in the Valley View District are Valley View School on Naperville Road; Park View School on Dalhart Avenue; North View School, east of Illinois 53 and north of Interstate 80; West View Junior High on Belmont Drive and [illegible] Road; Ridge View School on [illegible]ton Avenue, and [illegible] View School on Gary Drive.

Joliet Herald-News
December 28, 1969
Page 1B

School District 96 Board of Education appointed Erenesto Edsall, former member of that board, to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of William Butchart. Edsall also served one term on the High School Board of Education after he retired from the Elementary School Board.

Bolingbrook and the District 96 Board of Education to open the fenced area behind North View School for recreation purposes for a one month trial basis.

Unanimous approval was given by the District 96 Board of Education to accept the bid of the First National Bank of Lockport for the purchase of $800,000 in tax anticipation warrant. The bid, the only one received out of twenty solicited was at an interest rate of 5%.

School District 96 took its first official steps to implement the 45-15 Valley View Plan for a year around school system. Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen was directed to make formal application to the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to start the new plan on the 30th of June, 1970.

A landmark meeting was held between the St. Andrews and the District 96 Boards of Education to discuss shared time and other mutual concerns. The Church school board was concerned about how the Valley View 45-15 plan would effect the present dual enrollment plan. No conclusions were reached at this time.

Bruce Webster was re-elected president of the District 96 Board of Education, and William Buchart was elected vice-president. Robert Noethen was appointed secretary. This will be Webster's second term as board president.

John Strobbe retiring from the District 96 Board of Education after six years, was given a documented recognition by the board for his years of service to the school district.

Two West View Jr. High young scientists received top honors for their projects at the district Science Exposition at I.I.T. in Chicago last week, and will be competing in the State Science Fair at Urbana later this year. The boys are Allen Hill, with a project in Exo Biology, and Mike Gross whose science project was Apollo 8 to the Moon. Mike will be the alternate if one of the other district winners is unable to attend the I.I.T. Conference.

The Board of Education of School District 96 decided to go into the bus transportation business. At their February meeting they solicited bids for twenty buses. Five bids were received at the meeting but no action was taken at this time. The school district has been contracting with the Crawford Bus Company for bus services.

The Beacon December 31, 1969
Page 1-12

he Beacon Jan 7, 1970

PARENTS RECIEVE SCHEDULES FOR 45-15 PLAN

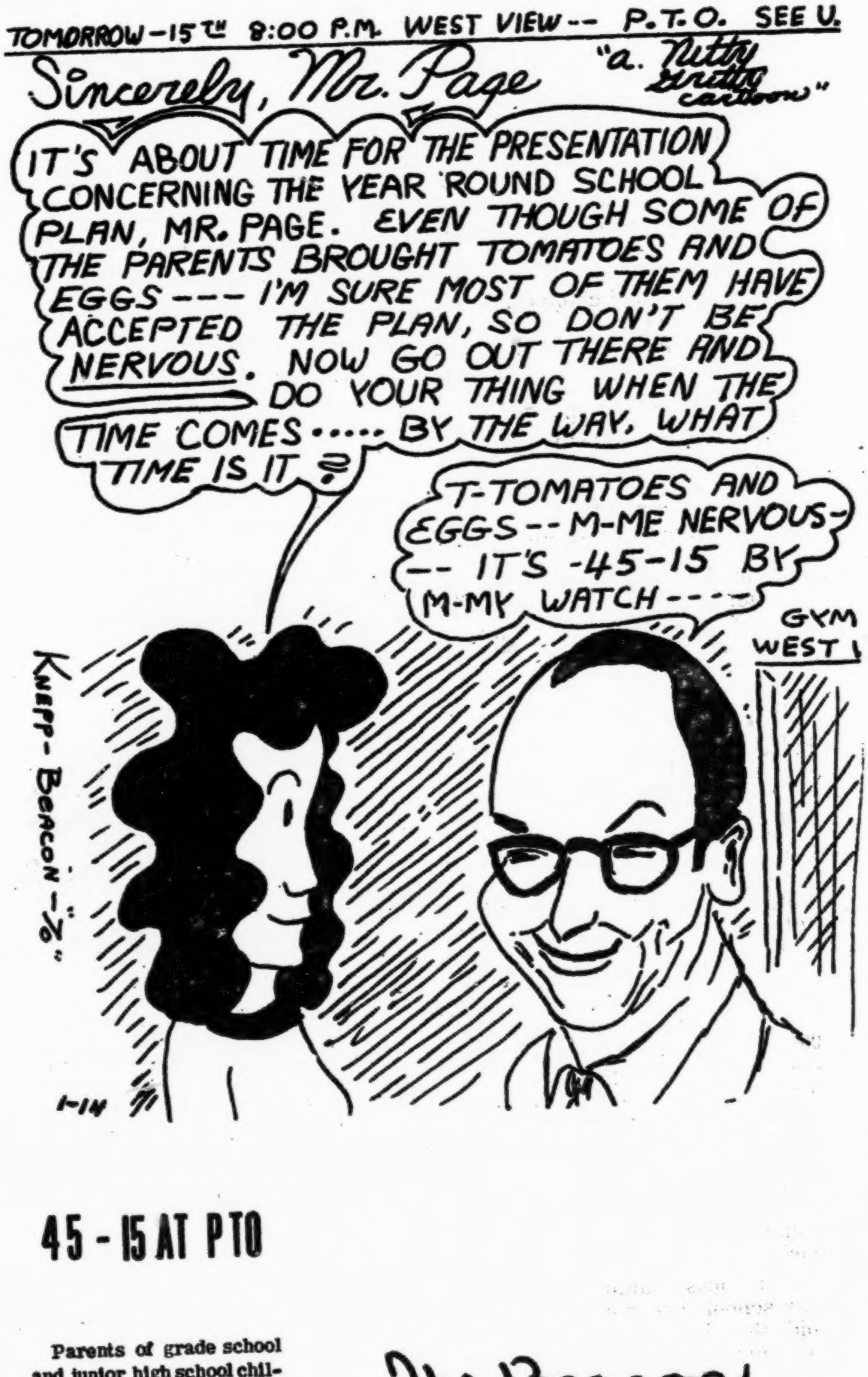
Parents who have children or will have children going to school District 96 this year received copies depicting the track their child will be on for the coming school year. While the Valley View 45-15 plan has been explained in the Beacon a number of times as well as at numerous public meetings it is expected that their will be some parents who still do not understand the ramifications of this plan. Three avenues are open by which these people can learn about the 45-15 plan. One is by attending the P.T.O. meeting set for January 15 at West View Jr. High School at 8 p.m. At second method is by calling the dial into education number-838-0699- for a message which explains the program. The third method is to get together a group of parents, arrange for a session of the group where one of the administrators will explain the plan to the group.

In brief, the Valley View 45-15 plan is a method by which the utilization of the school buildings is enhanced by approximately thirty three per cent. The students are divided into four near equal tracks. The first track will start this summer and continue for forty five school days. After the first fifteen school days the second track will start, after the first thirty school days the third track will start and after the first fourty-five school days the fourth track will start. When the fourth track starts the first track has their first fifteen school day vacation. In other words, at any given time only seventy five per cent of the students are in school.

The 45-15 plan was one of necessity. The school district has exhausted it's bonding power (the ability to borrow money to build schools) and even though the voters may wish to build those schools the school can not legally do this. Since kindergarten is compulsory starting this year, and new families have moved and will be moving into the area, the six schools in the district could not handle all the pupils using the traditional school year unless the schools went on double shifts or loaded the classrooms with fifty to sixty pupils.

The 45-15 plan is being watched closely not only by schools in this area but school districts throughout the country. If it is successful it is expected that many other schools will adopt versions of this plan.

Parents who have not attended a program on the 45-15 plan are urged to attend the P.T.O. meeting of Thursday, January 15 at 8 p.m. at the West View Junior High School little theater. Several administrators who were instrumental is formulating the plan will be on hand to explain it and answer questions. All residents of the district are invited to attend this meeting.


TOMORROW-15th 8:00 P.M. WEST VIEW -- P.T.O. SEE U.
Sincerely, Mr. Page "a Nitty Gritty cartoon"
IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR THE PRESENTATION CONCERNING THE YEAR ROUND SCHOOL PLAN, MR. PAGE. EVEN THOUGH SOME OF THE PARENTS BROUGHT TOMATOES AND EGGS --- I'M SURE MOST OF THEM HAVE ACCEPTED THE PLAN, SO DON'T BE NERVOUS. NOW GO OUT THERE AND DO YOUR THING WHEN THE TIME COMES..... BY THE WAY, WHAT TIME IS IT ?
T-TOMATOES AND EGGS -- M-ME NERVOUS- -- IT'S -45-15 BY M-MY WATCH---
GYM WEST V
KNEPP-BEACON-'70
1-14

45 - 15 AT PTO

Parents of grade school and junior high school chil- and junior high school children in District 96 who do not understand, or have questions about the Valley View 45-15 plan, are urged to attend the PTO meeting to be held at the West View Little Theater tomorrow evening (Thursday) at 8 p.m. The administrators who conceived and worked out the details of the 45-15 plan will be on hand to answer questions and discuss specific problems. All residents of School District 96 are welcome.

The Beacon
January 14, 1970

VIEW ON SCHOOLS

To the Editor:

I am writing concerning the upcoming District 205 referendum.

Instead of some of the announced cuts and changes, some of which seem pointless and meager — no yearbooks, newspaper, clubs, band — why not larger and more logical ones?

It seems a bit unnecessary to have so many assistants to superintendents, principals, deans, counselors, etc. when fewer would probably suffice and save a lot of money. Perhaps some would be willing to take salary cuts to show their willingness to do everything to solve the problems of the district.

Perhaps a shift of students with all freshmen and sophomores at Central, juniors at East, and seniors at West. Or, perhaps the purchase or rental of the Lockport Central Grade School building for additional space.

Perhaps the year-round plan being instituted this year by Elementary School District 96 which will serve more students without additional building.

Perhaps instead of $3,500-$5,000 taxpayer dollars every sixty (60) days until the referendum is passed plus the $12,000 fee (again taxpayer dollars) being paid the consulting firm, a delay until reasonable cuts are made and shown to be effective. Let them give the taxpaying voters proof they can be sensible and reasonable and will not squander the referendum money as has been done previously.

A business couldn't be run the way schools are run. We've been told the district won't receive any money until 1971-72 even if the referendum is passed. What then? Will they again sell tax anticipation warrants this spring and fall against the referendum money so that in 1971 or 1972 or 1973 we'll have the same situation?

Marjorie Herron
16101 Janet Ave.
Lockport, Ill. 60441

Joliet Herald-News
January 29, 1970

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CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

The *Complete* Evening Newspaper

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95th Year, Number 20 Saturday-Sunday, January 24-25, 1970 25 Cents ☆ Phone 321-2000 **Red Flash**

Suburb turns to all-year school

By George Harmon

In June, a Will County school district will become the first in recent history to operate on a year-round basis.

The 7,000 children affected by the new program have seen the last of those long and lazy summer vacations.

And Valley View Elementary District 96 — nestled among the cornfields and subdivisions along the Des Plaines River — will put itself on the educational map.

YEAR-ROUND classes may be one answer to school systems that face growing enrollment and increased costs.

At Valley View, it may prove a valuable stopgap for a budding area-wide revolt by taxpayers who cannot afford and will not vote more funds for schools.

This mini-revolt is forcing cutbacks in supposedly "fat-cat" districts such as Evanston and New Trier.

Year-round school almost certainly will amount to the closest thing to a revolution that Romeoville — a once-sleepy whistle stop turned suburb — and its Will County environs have ever experienced.

"Basically, 200 years of tradition are being changed," said James Gove, an assistant superintendent who masterminded the program.

GOVE IS BRACED for complaints, but he thinks several things will keep people happy because:

- Operating costs will not increase.
- Teachers can hold a year-long job and make more money.
- Children will have four long vacations instead of one.
- The district will gain the equivalent of two 30-room buildings without adding another brick.

THREE THOUSAND families in the district's 41½ square miles have been notified that the new system will work this way:

Students will be divided into four equal groups, the first of which starts school June 30 and finishes a nine-week session Aug. 31. Three weeks of vacation will be followed by a new 45-day class session on Sept. 22.

The other groups proceed along the same schedule at 15-day intervals.

Each student will have four

Turn to Page 6, Column 4

Scott vs. $5 million

Sunday: Family shopping day

All-year schools for suburb

Continued from Page 1

three-week vacations, in addition to Christmas week, Easter week and a 10-day period at the beginning of the summer.

Teachers who so desire can be in class for 240 days instead of the usual 180 and earn $9,000 to $16,000 for the full year.

Children of the same neighborhood will be placed in the same school group.

GOVE SAID Valley View, which feeds into the Lockport Twp. high schools, was driven to its "45-15" plan by a combination of troubles.

Taxpayers have been hit with 15 different educational tax increases over 8 years and the district has reached the limit of its bonding power.

The prolific Romeoville area produces 500 additional children each year. And a recent state law requires that Valley View open a kindergarten July 1 for its 1,200 children of kindergarten age.

Thus the district faced the dilemma of accommodating 1,700 more students in a mere 180 classrooms.

The school board could house more than 60 students in some classrooms, it could double sessions or it could keep the schools open all year. It chose the year-round plan.

VALLEY VIEW devised its own plan, Gove said, when it discovered that various written plans would not solve its particular problems.

Forty-nine cities have asked for copies of the Valley View plan, but the year-round concept is not new in American education.

53
83
66
River
Des Plaines
Chicago
Romeoville
Lockport
Joliet
N
0
5
Miles

Similar systems are operating in other areas, including seven counties around Atlanta.

In the Chicago area, Du Page County held a recent countywide meeting on the subject and Cook County Asst. Supt. Roy Wehmhoefer released a comprehensive study on [illegible] plans last year.

CHICAGO SCHOOL Supt. James F. Redmond participated in a similar study when he worked in Syosset, N.Y.

He has predicted that the trend is toward an 11-month school year, and Chicago Teachers Union president John Desmond agrees.

Redmond has said that Chicago, where nearly 50 per cent of the students attend summer school, is already operating close to year-round. But a recent budgetary crisis cut summer school funds in half.

The Valley View brainstorm looks good on paper, but Cove is the first to admit that it is no cure-all.

"This will hold us at least two years before we have to build additional facilities," he says

"But, remember, for each three buildings we construct in the future, we will gain a fourth under this system."

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District gets grant to study school plan

ROMEOVILLE — The Valley View School District has been awarded a $43,790 federal grant to research the 45-15 continuous school plan, in which students attend classes 45 days, then have 15 vacations days, on a year-around basis.

The grant was announced to the board of education Monday by James Gove, administrative assistant of the district.

Gove said research will be an analysis between the traditional school program and the 45-15 plan, and will involve research and evaluation design. He said Compumatics Corp. had been instrumental in securing this grant for the district.

The board decided that three persons would need to be hired for this program, a director, deputy director and a secretary. The board also approved Gove, Patrick Page, research assistant, and Paul Swinford, business manager, to work on the project in July with the three persons to be hired.

Supt. Kenneth Hermansen read a copy of a letter from State Sen. Harris Fawell to the Naperville board of education asking that it delay approval to Levitt Builders for 30 to 40 days. This would give time for investigation into the economic impact on taxpayers before a huge apartment complex and shopping center is built on Naperville Road. About 400 acres of the complex will be in Valley View School District, Hermansen said.

In other business, the board:

—Changed its policy on building usage for non-profit groups within the district. The new policy states, that if a custodian is on duty ther will be no charge. If a custodian has to be employed, there will be a $7.50 fee per hour.

—Approved purchasing equipment for $335 to continue the dial-for-education program. The recording equipment will reduce the payment to Illinois Bell Telephone Co. from $348 to $144 yearly.

The next board meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 23 at Park View School.

Joliet Herald-News
February 10,
1970
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SCHOOL GETS GRANT FOR 45-15 STUDY

School District 96 has been granted $43,790 by the Federal Government to conduct an educational and fiscal analysis on the Valley View 45-15 Year-round School Plan, projected over the next ten years. The announcement was made by assistant school superintendent James Gove at the regular Monday meeting of the Board of Education.

To implement the project the board approved a motion by James Bingle to hire a director, a deputy director and fiscal analyist and a secreatry, and to use part of the grant to cover one month salary for Gove and administrators Pat Page and Paul Swinford. The project is to be completed in six months.

Motions were also made and approved to retain the Illinois School Consulting Service to survey the north boundaries of the school district. The cost will be shared by Naperville School Dist #78, and perhaps other school districts.

Beacon

February 11, 1970

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26 Chicago Today, Sunday, February 22, 1970

Year 'round school coming?

Will county plan is eyed

BY SAMMYE MALOSKY

SEVERAL MONTHS ago Valley View Elementary District 96 in Will county was in a dilemna. Administrators expected an additional 1,500 students for the 1970-71 school year, but could not build the necessary classrooms because the district's maximum bonding power had been reached.

"We had essentially three choices left open to us," says Asst. Supt. James Gove. "We could double the size of the classrooms, to an average of 60 students. Children could attend school in shifts. Or we could utilize more days of the year."

Valley View chose to switch to a year-round school system. It will be the only school district in Illinois operating on a 12-month basis.

EFFECTIVE June 30, the Valley View plan enables the district to keep all 180 classrooms in the six elementary schools serving Romeoville and Bolingbrook constantly in use. The result is the equivalent of 240 classrooms for the district.

Valley View's is a unique plan. Most year-round school proposals follow the 9-month school, 3-month vacation organization by staggering students so that some have 3 months vacation in the winter, or by allowing them the option of continuing school during the summer.

Atlanta, Ga., currently the only other district utilizing year-round education, gives eighth thru twelfth grade students the summer option and encourages them to finish high school early.

IN CONTRAST, Valley View's elementary students will go to school for 45 days and then have vacation for 15 days in a continuous cycle thru the year. But only three-fourths of the total student body is in class at any one time.

The district was divided into four census groups, A, B, C, and D, each composed of students from kindergarten thru eighth grade. Care was taken that all children from the same family ended up in the same group.

According to Gove, the neighborhood concept was also followed, so that "when Johnny is in school, his next door neighbor Mary is there also."

GROUP A will start the 1970-71 school year on June 30. Group B begins on July 21, with group C attending classes for the first time on Aug. 11. At this point, there is a 100 per cent utilization of classroom facilities, says Gove.

On Aug. 31, group A finishes 45 days of school and goes home for 15 days of vacation. On Sept. 1, group D moves into the empty classrooms of group A. Come Sept. 22, group B concludes its 45 days and leaves for 15 days. Group A returns to classes the following day. Group C ends 45 days of school on Oct. 14, with group B returning from vacation on the 15th.

And so forth for 12 months a year. Each group attends school the requisite 180 days.

"THE 45-15 plan gives every family a 3-week vacation in every season of the year," Gove points out. "In addition, students receive a week off at Christmas, Easter and during the summer.

Teachers were give the choice of teaching thruout the year or following the 45-15 schedule with their students. According to John Lukancic, assistant superintendent of curriculum and personnel, the faculty members are pleased with the plan and ironed out contractual and seniority questions in committees.

Those teachers who have chosen to work 45 days and then take 15 days vacation feel this plan gives them more time at home thruout the year.

OTHER TEACHERS will work year-round, the maximum 244 days, with a week of vacation at Christmas, Easter and the summer. They like not having to look for a summer job to supplement their incomes.

Salaries have been adjusted according to the number of days at work. A beginning teacher in the district now receives $6,975 for 180 days work. Next year's starting teacher who elects to work 244 days will receive $9,200, with maximum ceiling at $16,000.

Zukancic doesn't anticipate any great changes in the curriculum. He points out that 45 days corresponds to the 9-week quarter. Currently students are on a four-quarter grading system. So instead of concentrating four grading periods in 9 months, Valley View is spreading it over 12 months.

"IT'S THE calendar that's been changed, not the curriculum. Furthermore, it's so structured that every child will graduate in the summer, before the traditional September entrance to Lockport High school," says Lukancic.

The community has accepted 45-15. "There simply isn't any controversy. Most of the parents are bending over backwards to see that the plan works," says Leslie Fenical, president of the Parent-Teacher organization.

Valley View has received a $43,720 federal grant to develop a fiscal analysis comparing the cost of 45-15 over a 10-year period with the cost of the traditional 9-month system. Part of the grant will go toward a research design to evaluate pupil achievement under the program.

"WE'RE instituting the plan as a permanent way of life, not as an experiment," says Gove. "That's why we don't want outside funds financing the operation of the program."

Other area school districts are studying the feasibility of year-round education. Among them are Arlington Heights high school district 214, Bensenville and the DuPage county schools.

Appoint Director For 45-15 Study

ROMEOVILLE -- Board members of School District 96 appointed a director and deputy director for a study to be made of the 45-15 plan as opposed to the traditional school year. Named at the meeting on February 23, was Dr. William Rogge, of the University of Illinois, who will serve as the director, and Robert Norfleet, of Compumatics, Incorporated, as deputy director.

This study will take six months and will be paid for from federal funds of $43.000, recently granted to the district.

Lockport Park District officials have consulted the school administrators about using Ridgeview School in Romeoville for their summer recreation program. Kenneth Hermansen advised the group that a daytime program could not be conducted because the 45-15 plan begins on June 30.

However, a plan could be instituted for a program to take place after 4 p.m. Residents of Romeoville south of 135th Street are in the Lockport park district and also in the library district.

Ronald Breyne, president of the board of education of St. Andrew's School in Romeoville, invited all District 96 board members to an open house, on March 1, to view the educational program and progress being made at St. Andrew's.

Audrey Manley, assistant principal at North View school, and Bruce Browning, Instructional Television Coordinator of the district presented a program to the board on the work already in progress and future plans for closed circuit T.V. work. Air pollution and safety will be presented in addition to the regular classroom work already being offered.

Future school board meetings will be held at 8 p.m. and will continue at this time until contract negotiations with teachers are completed.

The next regular meeting will be held on March 9, at 8 p.m. in the library of Park View School.

Southwest Graphic
March 4, 1970
Page 2

National Attention to Be on Suburban School District's Year-Round Classes

By **BRUCE SMITH**

A small west-suburban school district is the center of national attention because it soon will convert to the 12-month school year.

Educators are watching developments in Valley View Elementary School district 96 in Will county, which has been awarded a contract to research aspects of a 12-month school year. The district feeds Naperville High School district 107 in Du Page county.

The $43,000 contract was awarded district 96 by the National Center for Educational Research and Development in the United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

The study is to determine the economics of operating a public school system on a year-round basis as opposed to the traditional nine-month school year with a three-month summer vacation.

District 96 has adopted for the 1970-71 school year a 12-month school calendar called the 45-15 plan. The district copyrighted the plan in August, 1969. The reason given for the action is that some educators were describing the plan without verifying their information with the plan's developers.

The 45-15 plan divides school enrollment into quarters. Pupils attend classes for 45 class days and then have 15 days of vacation, repeating the cycle four times yearly. Additional vacation periods are provided all students in the traditional holiday seasons.

District 96 will put its plan into effect June 30. One-fourth of the district's enrollment will begin a 60-day cycle (45 class days and 15 vacation days) that day.

The first cycle for the second 25% to take part in the rescheduled school year will be July 21 thru Oct. 14. The third group's cycle will be Aug. 11 thru Nov. 4 and the fourth Sept. 1 thru Nov. 30.

The theory behind a 12-month school year is that by keeping the facilities in use all year with 75% of the pupils attending school at any one time, the district can handle 33% more pupils without adding facilities.

District 96 covers 41½ square miles in north Will county, including the municipalities of Bolingbrook and Romeoville. The rest of the district is in unincorporated Will county.

District 96 developed the 45-15 plan because of rapidly increasing enrollments and a lack of bonding power to build additional schools.

The district started the school year with

It expects to have about 7,200 pupils for the 1970-71 school year.

The assessed valuation of district 96 is about $120 million and will be about $125 million for the next calendar year.

Robert Nortleet, a consultant to the district, said Monday that the district had an assessed valuation of about $100,000 per pupil in 1960 but that today's assessed valuation per pupil is less than $20,000.

He said the district expects 1,000 to 1,200 kindergarten pupils for the next year. The kindergarten pupils will attend on a half-day basis. The district has not previously operated kindergarten classes.

The kindergarten pupils, the present pupils, and the increase expected in the summer will give the district the estimated 7,200 full-time pupils it expects for the next year.

Repeating the 60-day cycle four times yearly allows each pupil to attend school the 176 days required by Illinois statutes.

Under the traditional nine-month school year, school calendars were made up for and teachers were contracted for 184 days per school year. The 184 days include four days for teacher institutes, four snow days, and 176 days on which pupils attend school.

District 96 now is negotiating teachers salaries for the next year. Projecting the present salary schedule onto a 12-month operation, teachers could receive $9,600 to $16,000 a year, depending upon degrees held and experience.

No information is available on what teachers are asking for the next year or on what the district is offering. However, last year district administrators were speculating about offering beginning teachers with a bachelor's degree and no experience $10,000 a year on a 12-month schedule.

Norfleet said preliminary talks with teachers indicate men teaching at the junior high school level prefer a 12-month contract but women teaching in the primary grades prefer a nine-month contract.

District 96 was formed in 1952 when six one-room country schools were unified by annexation. A sixth school was added in 1953.

Total enrollment for the 1953-54 school year was 89. An enrollment projection prepared in April, 1969, predicted that the district's enrollment will be 16,450 pupils for the 1980-81 school year.

District officials already are beginning to revise their estimates upward.

"All we need is for the interest rates to drop and a few more developers to begin developing a few more subdivisions and our projections are all wrong," said one spokesman for the district.

District 96 also is to outline plans for determining whether pupils learn more efficiently under a year-round operation and how the year-round operation of a public school system affects other community organizations.

Aspects of the three problems are now being studied by the School Calendar Study Committee of Du Page County, a group of educators and private citizens appointed in October.

The study being made in district 96 is to be completed by July 31, 1971, and forwarded to Washington in late summer or early fall.

HARTFORD, CONN.
TIMES
D. 133,803 — S. 150,000
HARTFORD METROPOLITAN AREA

MAR 23 1970

Year-Around School?

When schools face a budgetary crisis or a space crunch, going to a twelve-month school year is one of the alternatives often mentioned. But no one really knows much about how well a year-round school would work, or how much it would save.

It's being tried, though, starting this summer in Valley View, Illinois. Students will be in school 45 days, then off for 15 days, year-around. The school itself will be functioning full time, of course, with about a quarter of the student body "on vacation" at any given time.

A federal grant will enable the Valley View educators to describe their program for the benefit of school boards across the nation, including a careful statistical measure of costs.

It sounds worth watching.

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Aurora Beacon-News (Ill)
March 29, 1970
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District 308 Citizens Report

AURORA (ILL.) BEACON-NEWS
SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 1970, P 35

Rising Enrollments Create Space Problems for School

"For almost a year the Citizens' Advisory Council and the Oswego Unit District 308 Board of Education have been looking at the most economical way to provide for our rapidly rising enrollments," according to Robert Gray, council chairman. "The program we have proposed represents the best solution in the eyes of both groups."

The Citizens' Advisory Council recommended to the board of education last fall that steps be taken immediately to provide these additional required facilities. Since that time the board has been meeting with its architects to study preliminary sketches and to consider the educational and financial soundness of any program.

The board took official action last Monday night and set the referendum election date for April 25. Council Chairman Gray said, "The program being presented to the voters at this time will take care of our immediate critical needs, as well as future needs through 1975."

One of the recommendations made by the council is the K-6-2-4 plan. The board of education, in adopting the recommendation, plans to move the 9th grade students to the senior high school this fall. In so doing, high school enrollment next year will increase to 850 in a building with a capacity of 600.

Even though it will be crowded during this year of construction, Gray said, it is desirable to move the 9th grade into the high school to enable students to benefit from better continuity of courses and to elect courses not now open to them. This move will relieve an immediate need for new junior high facilities, because only the 7th and 8th grades will be left in the present building.

This facility can accommodate them until 1974, and will also be able to absorb the Eastview 6th grade overflow for one year, until additional grade school construction at Long Beach can alleviate the grammar school overcrowding.

Enrollment projections indicate there will be between 1,200 and 1,300 students in the high school alone by 1975. It is felt there are too many unknowns in the projected growth rate to make recommendations past 1976, Gray said.

"Much has been reported about the '12-month school' which is being started in a district to the south of us," Glenn Best, chairman of the advisory council's facilities committee, said. "However, that situation is completely different from ours, since it has exhausted its financial ability to provide buildings. According to officials of that district, the every-day operating costs under the 12-month plan would be greater than they are now. There is very little experience around the United States as to whether this program will work or not.

"Because we do have the financial ability to provide adequately for the needs of our educational system, we do not care to experiment with it and our childrtn's futures. It may not work."

Another alternative discussed by the advisory council was that of double shifting of classes. In this type of situation, students attend school on a half-day basis, with some students possibly on a 7 a.m.-to-noon schedule and others noon-to-5 p.m. Both schedules could affect any given family. Grade school children are handicapped because they are physically unable to cope with such unnatural hours.

Council studies show students at all grade levels would be put on a two-shift factory basis, with very little opportunity for guidance or help outside the immediate classroom situation; there would be no lunch program possible; and athletic and other activities would inevitably suffer. The community might then also be presented with the problem of providing suitable leisure activities for those teenagers not in school.

Double shifting is an emergency solution, and has never proved satisfactory over the long run, Gray said, but this is the road the district will be forced to travel in 1971 if the electorate fails to provide the additional classrooms.

The possibility of using portable classrooms was considered, but anything expended on these temporary facilities is only money down the drain, because a permanent building is much cheaper in the long run, Best said. In addition, by Illinois law, five years is the maximum amount of time for which such structures will be approved.

12mo School Series

Hammond Times

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School Plan May End Kids' Free Summers

The Times
(Local)
March 29, 1970

By MARILYNN HEHR
Times Staff Writer

They've turned the one-room schoolhouse into something that in many instances resembles a creature from outer space.

They've computerized, televised, modualized and clusterized pupils and classes.

They've constructed some of the best swimming pools in Calumet Region schools and have the best facilities for a kid to dribble a basketball.

But they still lock up the buildings every June and turn the kids out into the streets for three long, hot summer months.

They're not needed on the farm any more. Urban living and mechanized equipment have changed that.

It's all changed except for the nine-month school year. They've left that alone.

At a time when most school corporations are facing ruin because of a lack of money, and increasing enrollments are demanding more facilities, many educators believe the nine-month concept is as out-of-date as fashion experts predict the mini will be come fall.

BUT A FEW EDUCATORS appear to be "with it." They're researching, studying and implementing an extended school year.

Public high schools in Atlanta have been operating on a year-round basis since the fall of 1968. Elementary schools will follow suit this year.

Supt. John W. Letson calls Atlanta's extended school year "a committment to a better kind of education."

The American School Board Journal reports more than 600 school districts are studying year-round plans. Michigan is spending $100,000 to survey the practicability of a 12-month calendar.

1st in a Series

At least one school corporation in the Calumet Region is seriously studying the extended year concept. It might begin by next December.

Others are talking about the merits but doing little else.

In Illinois, a small school district with five elementary schools and one junior high, is through talking.

VALLEY VIEW School District 96 near Lockport will go on a "45-15" day plan June 30. The plan will give pupils 45 days in school and 15 days' vacation. It is continuous.

An Illinois Calumet Region educator has thoroughly researched the year-round system, but he's had no support from his school board.

Supt. Chester Maihofer in Calumet City's Wentworth School District 155 proposed the extended year last spring as an alternative to a building program or split shifts.

The board closed its ears to all three.

Maihofer believes "people are reluctant to accept change . . . especially when you're changing something that's been in existence over a long period of time."

But he also believes one " must think objectively and not close his eyes . . . we should examine the problem from all aspects . . . and think of survival."

"IN A SOCIETY where we're so money conscious, do we want only an edifice . . . or do we want to utilize effectively all that we have," Maihofer questions.

Hammond Supt. Robert L. Medcalf says he's concerned at the moment with trying to operate his 27 schools for nine months "let alone 12."

But he agrees the extended school year concept is something worth looking at.

"We're going to have to analyze new methods of education, and concepts . . . and if the 12-month school year is one of them, then it should be studied," he says.

"There's no rhyme or reason why we operate on a nine-month basis, it's just custom," says Medcalf.

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Schools Used More During 12-Month Plan

By MARILYNN HEHR
Times Staff Writer

There's a new tool being marketed for school districts with growing pains, no money and exhausted bonding power.

School corporations across the country are studying the possibility of throwing out 200 years of tradition and keeping the kids in school during the summer months.

They're considering several plans for an extended school year. But only a small number have adopted any one of the plans.

The Lake Central School Corporation is eyeing four possibilities. Valley View School District 96 in Will County, Ill., will begin the 1970-71 term June 30; on the "45-15" plan.

A LAKE CENTRAL committee with community and school representation will recommend May 15 the approval of one of the plans under study.

The plans include the staggered four-quarter concept, the rotating four-quarter plan, a staggered trimest plan and a rotating trimester plan.

2nd in a Series

Under the staggered four-quarter system, the school year is divided into four equal terms. Students attend all four terms for about 220 days. The normal number of school days a year in 180.

Four semesters are included in the rotating four-quarter plan but only 75 per cent of the students are in school during any term. Students attend three consecutive terms and vacation the fourth for a total of 180 days.

The staggered trimester is identical to the staggered four quarter plan with the exception the year is divided into three equal terms.

The rotating trimester plan also divides the school year into three equal terms. Students attend two consecutive terms and vacation the third. About 66 per cent of the students are in school during any given semester for 180 days.

The continuous rotating "45-15" plan adopted by the small Illinois elementary school district divides pupils into four groups—each group attending school for 45 class days and then having 15 days of vacation.

BY STAGGERING the starting date of each group, only three-quarters of the pupils will attend classes at one time. The four groups will remain in the same order of rotation with each group attending 180 school days in a calendar year.

The school district has a five-year calendar drawn up giving pupils time off on legal holidays, Saturdays and Sundays, a full week at Christmas and Easter and at least one week in July.

The Lake Central steering committee and Valley View school officials list many advantages for an extended year.

The advantage is total utilization of all facilities.

Valley View says the extended year will mean putting off a $4 million to $6 million building program for at least two years.

It also will increase classroom space by 33 per cent without additional construction, and "fewer desks, textbooks. library books and audiovisual items will be needed to serve an increased enrollment," say school officials.

ADVANTAGES CITED by the Lake Central steering committee are:

Students can complete 12 years of schooling in 10 years, allowing them to select extra college prep courses, receive on-the-job training or research a subject of interest.

The dropout rate tends to decrease since students have an expanded education by the time they reach the legal dropout age.

Employment competition is not as high during the fall, winter and spring months.

If a student fails a course, he can repeat the term instead of the entire year. Each student would have an extra semester every three or four years to be used for makeup work, new classes or advanced work.

School officials in both corporations caution an adopted plan must be "tailored" to a school district's specific needs.

"Not every plan will work in every school district," says District 96 Assistant Superintendent James R. Gove.

The Time
(Local)

March 30,
1970

Because state law demands all school districts provide kindergarten facilities by the beginning of the 1970-71 school year, the district estimates a pupil population of 7,000 when the new term starts June 30.

Gove says the district won't save money by going on the extended year plan, but it does mean the avoidance—for at least two years—of a $4 million to $6 million building program, or the equivalent of two 30-room buildings.

To operate six buildings on a year-round basis would be the equivalent of operating two additional buildings, says Gove.

He believes the added expense to the school district comes in the form of time spent on "gearing up" the program, time spent in researching it and scheduling pupils.

THE DISTRICT is financing the program itself. It's not looking for outside help.

"If we received federal funds, the program would stop when the money stopped coming in . . . this isn't a pilot project, it's a way of life," says Gove.

But the district has been singled out by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for some federal aid.

It's been given a $43,000 grant to study the 12-month system and report to the U.S. Office of Education its findings on comparison of costs over a 10-year period.

Gove said the study will show the costs of operating Valley View Schools over the next 10 years on a traditional nine-month schedule and for a 12-month program.

It's estimated the Valley View School District will retain the "45-15" plan for at least the next 10 years.

"WE WANT to make a better product and operate at a profit, that is by utilizing our buildings all year . . . we're going about it as much as possible in a business-like procedure," says Gove.

(Con'T)
The
Times
(Local)
March 31, 1970

District Takes Plunge Into Year-'Round School

By MARILYNN HEHR
Times Staff Writer

A small Will County school district stretching from the banks of the Des Plaines River through cornfields and into modern suburbia will break down 200 years of tradition in June.

It'll be doing something many larger school corporations are contemplating when it opens its doors June 30 on a year-around basis.

School District 96 in Romeoville is in the same dilemma most school systems throughout the country are facing.

Growing enrollment, little money, no bonding power and crowded facilities are making schools look for new answers.

Many are studying numerous possible plans which could work on a year-around basis.

BUT SCHOOL DISTRICT 96 is through studying. They're all set to act.

The school district will implement the "45-16 Day Plan" — 45 days in class, 15 class days off. It was one of several plans considered before approval was given.

Assistant Supt. James R. Gove believes the success on a year-round school program is based on its acceptance by the local school board, by state school officials and by the community.

In Valley View School District 96, residents have approved tax hikes 15 times in the last 10 years.

"Our board is 100 per cent behind us and the General Assembly has authorized reapportionment of state aid . . ." says Gove.

He admits the community hasn't been out waving banners approving the program but they haven't carried pickets to protest it either.

OUT OF 3,000 letters sent to parents in December explaining the program, only two "nasty" replies were returned and the administration received only one "nasty" phone call.

Supt. Kenneth Hermansen and his staff believe it's important to keep the community informed at all times "not just when you want something from them."

They also believe in being honest.

"We told them (taxpayers) the extended school year was not a complete answer . . . in time we'll need to build more schools . . .," says Patrick Page, district research coordinator.

By extending the school year, the district says it will utilize all its facilities and pupils will have a full day of classes for 180 days of the year.

3rd in a Series

"We're doing this out of necessity," says Gove.

Alternatives were split shifts or doubling up on class size, to 60 or more.

SINCE ITS BEGINNING in 1953 when six one-room country schoolhouses were consolidated, the school district has grown at a rapid rate of 500 pupils a year —from 89 to 5,500.

The Times
(Local)
March 31, 1970
(Con't)

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The Times
(Local)
April 1, 1970

Year-Round School Gives One Answer to Crowding

By **MARILYNN HEHR**
Times Staff Writer

When their schools have reached the saturation point, educators and school boards usually consider two answers to the problem—a building program or split shifts.

Both can be unpalatable from both an educational and community standpoint.

Building usually means an increased tax rate. Split shifts usually mean irate parents.

But another alternative is being revived.

The extended school year was first used in Bluffton, Ind., from 1904 to 1915. At least 13 other cities, including Gary, have tried it at one time or another. All also abandoned its use.

An assistant superintendent of an Illinois elementary school district which will go on a 12-month plan in June believes there are two main reasons why the extended year was tried and dropped.

James R. Gove of Valley View School District 96 in Romeoville believes the year-round concept failed because of community apathy and the inability of administrations to handle pupil scheduling.

EDUCATORS AGREE there must be community acceptance of an extended plan or it will be short-lived.

But there are other things to consider, too.

Glen Eberley, assistant principal at Lake Central High School, sees numerous advantages for his school corporation if it adopts a year-round plan.

Eberley has headed a committee studying the use of a year-round plan for Lake Central. Recommendations of the committee are to be presented to the superintendent and the board of education May 15.

It's estimated Lake Central High School will reach its saturation point next year. Eberley says the year-round plan could "buy" the district additional room.

"It's better than going on split days or operating classes out of church basements and town halls," he says.

Calumet City Supt. Chester Maihofer, agrees.

He says he "can't defend" the split shift concept unless it is for upper grade pupils where a full day of classes can be given.

"If we can properly do in three or four hours something that is now given six or seven hours, then something is wrong," Maihofer says.

AS AN EDUCATOR, Maihofer says he is strongly against curtailing the curriculum.

"We must do all we can to give students a system of thinking, developing their individuality and finding a role in society."

Eberley says some argue the year-round school system can only work in a large district or on a county-wide basis.

"It would be a long time in coming if we (Lake Central) tried to involve more," he says.

He sees many possibilities but he adds a school district adopting the extended year concept "must believe it can work and must have the community and school officials willing to give it at least a three-year trial."

Educators see the 12-month school year as a method to expand curriculum and have a number of teachers freed from classroom duties during each quarter of the system to offer added services.

A STUDY MADE by Roy A. Wehmhoefer, assistant superintendent of Cook County schools, says fewer teachers would be required on the year-round basis.

The "45-15" plan adopted by Valley View District would allow parents to choose any time in the year for a vacation.

But Atlanta, Ga., school officials see another advantage.

It means not turning 120,000 kids into the streets at one time for three consecutive hot summer months.

Fourth in a Series

The Times
(Local)

April 2,
1970

Uncertainties Cloud Year-round Outlook

By MARILYNN HEHR
Times Staff Writer

Because it doesn't come with a written guarantee, there are probably more educators who believe the 12-month school year can't work than there are those willing to give it at ry.

The extended school concept is being examined from all aspects by many boards of education and superintendents across the country as a measure to "buy" added classrooms without raising taxes.

It's being tried, too, in several areas on a county-wide basis.

But there are those who are pessimistic.

They say there are too many "ifs" and "buts" that make the year-round school concept too risky.

They say there are too many things to consider. For every argument in favor of the concept, they present two against.

East Chicago Supt. Ernest Miller and four members of his school board recently attended a four-day seminar on the 12-month school plan in Atlanta. The high schools there have been operating on a year-round basis for the last two years.

Fifth in a Series

Elementary schools in Atlanta may also go on the extended year this fall.

Miller says he believes his board is "not that enthralled" with the year-round program they saw in Atlanta.

At a recent school board meeting, Miller called the 12-month year, a "... scheme of revising their (Atlanta's) curriculum."

He sees the extended school year as something which would "not be the most desirable for East Chicago at this time."

Miller believes there would be a problem in distributing state aid, which is dispensed by a formula on a nine-and 10-month school basis in Indiana.

There would be difficulty in computing teacher salaries for an added quarter and the "whole calendar" would need to be revised to "jibe" with legal holidays, says Miller.

There would be difficulty in textbook selections, and costs of operating on a year-round basis would be higher, he says.

Assistant Supt. James R. Gove of Valley View District 96 in Romeoville, Ill., believes none of the problems cited by opposing educators to the extended school year are insurmountable.

He believes he 12 month system has failed in some school systems only because of the inability of administrators to handle pupil scheduling and because of public apathy. The system will begin June 20 in Valley View.

Glen Eberley, assistant principal at Lake Central High School, and Supt. Chester Maihofer of Wentworth School District 155 in Calumet City, have studied the extended school concept in depth.

Both agree an extended school concept with a number of pupils taking vacations in spring, fall or winter, would be favorable in a region where many fathers are employed in industry and are unable to have the summer months off. Miller says he'd like to know the number of persons in East Chicago who do not have the summer off.

Other arguments against the 12-month concept say teachers want the summer off to travel, study or take family vacations.

But a report from Rochester, Minn., where a school system has gone on the four-quarter concept, shows 91 per cent of its teachers want a chance to work fulltime.

Maintenance problems are also cited by the opponents. But more sophisticated operations than a school building are operated on a daily, year-round schedule—hospitals, air terminals, shopping centers, hotels.

Many states have passed bills allowing for state aid distribution on a 1 month formula. Among the are Ne York, Illinois, California and Texas.

A study in Newark, N.J. showed the failure rate among those pupils studyin during the summer months was lowe than among those in school at any othe period of the school term.

A study made by the steering committee in Lake Central School Corpor tion finds extra-curricular activities ca be altered successfully for those pupils on a year-round basis.

Maihofer believes there's much to b said about the validity of a year-roun school program.

"We must think objectively and not close our eyes ... we must examine th problems from all aspects ...," say Maihofer.

Teachers Favor All-Year School Plan

By MARILYNN HEHR
Times Staff Writer

Just as those who scoff at the new midi hemline, there are those who will fight the extended school year.

But the executive director of the Indiana State Teachers Association says teachers will not be among them.

Robert H. Wyatt predicts "the large majority of teachers" will approve of the extended school year concept since it would allow them to work year-round at their profession if they choose rather than "moonlighting" in the mills.

Although the ISTA has taken no stand on the 12-month concept, Wyatt says it would be in favor of lengthening the school year.

It was an ISTA bill which finally lengthened the school year in Indiana from a minimum of eight months to nine.

The bill was first killed in the legislature in 1959; two years later it was signed by Gov. Matthew Welsh.

Wyatt says there are many psychological factors to consider by any school system contemplating the adoption of a year-round program, but adds, "nothing is impossible."

Wyatt believes most schools are being used for at least part of the summer.

"Summer school programs keep 30 to 40 per cent of the pupils during the summer months," says Wyatt.

"It's not as bad as it looks . . . the buildings really don't stand empty all summer," he adds.

But Wyatt also believes the summer school movement could be further developed into moving toward the 12-month school year concept.

Last in a Series

When the legislature convenes next January, it's likely the ISTA will be there with a bill proposing the minimum for the state's school year be increased to 10 months, says Wyatt.

Before any Indiana school corporation decides to go on a year-round basis, numerous hurdles must be cleared with state school officials.

There's the question of state aid distribution; officials of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools must be kept in mind and the Indiana High School Athletics Association must also be questioned.

Lake Central High School principal Fred Jones is on the state committee for the NCA.

"The NCA wants to encourage changes and innovation in school programs . . . from that approach I would assume they would make the effort to cooperate in the direction of the year-round school," he says.

Lake Central is studying the feasibility of adopting one of several possible 12-month school plans.

Philip Eskew, commissioner of the IHSA, believes the extended school is a "coming thing" and says his association should "do some thinking on it."

In a letter to the Lake Central steering committee, headed by assistant principal Glen Eberly, Eskew says IHSAA has not recently made any decisions governing the 12-month concept since no schools in the state are on such a plan.

Eskew "welcomes" the Lake Central committee members to "stop by for further discussions." He said the IHSAA decision-making body, however, is the board of control.

Two years ago the Illinois General Assembly adopted a bill permitting school districts to operate on a year-round basis and providing for reapportioning of its state aid per pupil.

For the most part, those superintendents and board of education considering adoption of a 12-month plan believe all arguments against the concept and obstacles not "insurmountable."

But they also believe each plan must be "tailored" to the needs of each school district.

The Lake Central steering committee will present a plan for an extended school year to its board of education and Supt. George Bibich by May 15.

Meanwhile, a small elementary school district in Romeoville, Ill., will go on a year-round basis beginning June 30.

In both instances, the plans are being used mainly as a measure to "buy" additional classroom space without building.

But officials in both school corporations believe the advantages are more numerous and far outweigh the disadvantages.

The Times (Local)
April 3, 1970

Page Praises District 96 For 45-15 Development

ROMEOVILLE — Ray Page, Illinois Superintendent of Public Instruction, has praised the members of the District 96 School Board, for their work on the 45-15 plan, scheduled to begin in June.

"Meeting the needs of an ever increasing number of boys and girls and adding new measures of quality to the educational program, without increased costs for construction, has been an overwhelming problem for District 96," said Page.

"Valley View has accepted the challenge of change and has taken a businesslike approach to resolving the problem. They have seen the necessity for using all available educational resources to the best possible advantage. For years, the front doors of schools have been 'padlocked' during the summer months. Better utilization of existing facilities and personnel through development of a year - round educational program is a promising hope for achieving a more adequate education. . .another step toward quality education for all boys and girls."

Page pointed out, "In 1952-53, six one-room school districts were combined to make one of the largest elementary school districts in the State, covering 41.5 square miles. In 1953, there were 200 homes, mostly farms, in the Valley View school district providing 89 pupils. In 1969, following the subdividing of much of the farmland, there were 5,000 homes in the district with 5,400 students attending six elementary schools. Estimates are that by 1979 there will be over 22,000 pupils in the school district due to the tremendous amount of new homes being built in the area.

The school district decided on a year-round schedule called the 45-15 plan. The schedule will break the school year into four 45-school day learning sessions, each followed by a 15-school day pupil vacation, or about nine weeks of school followed by three weeks vacation.

The scheduling will therefore allow more frequent intervals whereby the slow learner can catch up with the class. Instead of three long summer months of vacation without any constructive developmental programs, the pupils will have a chance to relax and make a fresh start each spring, summer, fall and winter.

Superintendent Page noted, "In addition to the four three-week vacations, all presently established holidays will be observed. The schedule includes a week vacation at Christmas and a week at Easter for everyone, teachers and students.

"Under this plan, parents can plan vacations for the south in the winter, in the north during the summer, and perhaps, sightseeing trips in the spring and fall as well."

The year-round plan may increase teacher salaries by putting them on a yearly salary rather than earning an income for approximately 180 days per year. They will no longer be part-time teachers looking for part-time work in the summer.

Fewer desks, textbooks, audio-visual items, library books, and other educational equipment will be needed to serve a larger number of students.

The scheduling system was designed to provide District 96 pupils with quality education, full school days, and 180 class days per year. The 45-15 schedule will not increase the number of class days of instruction.

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Chicago Tribune
MARCH 1, 1970
Section 10 -3

SOUTH
NORTHWEST
INDIANA
NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Reprinted, courtesy of the Chicago Tribune.

Schools to Adopt Year-Round Plan for Romeoville

BY CHARLES OSGOOD

Remember the long suumer vacations, June to September, that school kids used to get? Well, most of these vacations are still intact. But they are a thing of the past in Will county's Valley View Elementary school district 96, Romeoville.

Starting June 30, the "Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan," the first of its kind in the country, will be put into effect. This means that school will be conducted all year round providing a full-time use of the facilities, or the equivalent of two added 30-classroom buildings, according to James Gove, assistant superintendent in the district.

All children in the kindergarten thru eighth grade district have been placed in four groups, "A" thru "D". Each group will attend school for 45 class days [excluding week-ends and holidays] and then have 15 class days of vacation.

Groups Start June 30

Group "A" will start school June 30. Group "B" will start 15 class days later, and group "C" will start 15 class days after that. About the beginning of September, group "A" will have attended school for the 45 days and will then get the 15 days vacation. At the same time, group "D" will start school, Gove said.

It keeps rotating on a continuous basis after that. When group "B" takes its vacation, it is time for "A" to start again.

The idea was initiated by Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent of the district. Something had to be done about the overcrowded condition of the school in the district.

Exhaust Bonding Power

The district had used completely its bonding power and no more school facilities could be built. So Hermansen presented a sketchy idea of a year-round school program to the school board early in 1968. The board greeted the suggestion with enthusiasm, and proceeded to study various methods, Gove said.

Three possible solutions were studied: To put 60 or more students in each classroom; to go into a half-day system; or to use the facilities more days of the year.

The first idea was shelved because of the poor education 60 elementary children would receive in one class from one teacher. The second plan, which had been tried for emergency periods in the past, was discarded also because of inadquate educational quality.

Favor 4-Quarter Plan

The board studied 16 plans that would involve the third alternative Gove said. The only one acceptable was a four-quarter plan.

The one fear about the proposal was that there would be a three-month vacation during each season of the year. Thus, 25 per cent of the students would have their vacation in the winter. The board feared there would be many complaints from dissatisfied parents because of this.

Patrick Page research director for the district, worked up the final plan and designed a calendar for the next five years. Each child will have 180 full days of school annually. Each will have a 15 class day vacation in all four seasons, plus a week off at Christmas and Easter, and 10 days at the end of June and early July, between cycles.

Will Enter Lockport High

All graduating eighth graders will be able to enter Lockport Township High school without any difficulty, Gove said. The last group to graduate will have about two weeks between the end of its eighth grade classes and the start of high school.

Parents are accepting the new system very well, Gove said. All 3,000 families who have children in the district were notified in December, and only two letters and one phone call of dissension have been received. There have been 12 letters requesting changes in group assignments. The latter problem will be worked out within the next few weeks with little or no difficulty, Gove said.

The children for each group have not been selected at random. All the children in the same family have been placed in the same groups. Whenever possible, all the kids in one neighborhood are also in the same group.

Plan Benefits Teachers

The new setup has benefits for the teachers. They are given the option of working 244 days each year. Thus, the starting salary, which is now $6,975 for the normal 180-day school year, will be $9,200 for teachers who instruct thruout the year. The one possible drawback is that their three-and-one-half week vacation is rigidly split between Christmas, Easter, and the end of June.

The teachers can also have the same schedule as the students, with 15 class days of vacation, four times a year.

Initially there will be classrooms to spare, he said. However, in a few years, more buildings will be needed. The good part of that is three buildings constructed will have the equivalent of four, Gove said.

The district is the first in the country to go on the 45-15 plan, he said. A $43,720 federal grant has been received for the evaluation and physical analysis of the system. The study will be completed by July 31st.

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Joliet Herald-News, Sunday, May 31, 1970

Romeoville teen center opens today

ROMEOVILLE — Good clean fun and a chance to cool it for the summer are the dreams of John Strobbe for Romeoville's young people.

Strobbe, now in his fourth year as director of Romeoville's recreation program and the recreation board, invite all interested residents to a grand opening from 1 to 5 p.m. today to inspect the new recreation facility at 27 Montrose Dr.

The building, located next to the civic center was formerly the village garage. One of the rooms will be used three Mondays a month by the village for circuit court.

The face lifting was brought about by the village after they built a new garage next to the sewage plant on Illinois 53.

The extensive remodeling included paneling, new tiled floor and ceiling and complete air conditioning.

A recreation hall and teen center, plus an office for the staff are contained in the building.

Strobbe said the center, which will have adult supervision at all times, will be open every day except Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 to 10 p.m., except when court is in session or when special programs have been planned.

The teen center is equipped with a juke box, a soft drink machine and ping pong tables. Cards and checkers also will be played.

Strobbe said the teen center is for young people 12 to 19 years of age and they each will be charged a 50 cents membership fee for the year.

He explained that they may bring guests as long as they sign them in and are willing to be responsible for them.

The new telephone numbers at the center are 838-2333 or 838-2344.

Another new factor for 'cooling it in a uptight world' is the complete renovation of Lake Shirley which was built five years ago by Alexander Construction Co. for the citizens of Romeoville.

Strobbe said the lake had been drained, the bottom scraped and the entire beach area and 80 per cent of the lake covered with washed sand.

A permanent diving platform has been built with the beach area deepened and increased to accomodate the deep diving area.

Other new innovations are a chlorinator to keep the water 100 per cent chlorinated and a sun deck by the kiddie wading pool for mothers.

The lake will open for swimming on June 15 and remain open through Sunday, September 20. Hours are from noon until 8:30 p.m. daily except Labor Day weekend when the pool will be closed, Strobbe said.

"We can no longer refer to our recreation program for youngsters six years and up as a summer program," noted Strobbe. "With Valley View District Grade School starting Plan 45-15 year around school on June 30, our recreation program also must be year around.

He predicts that at least 2,000 children will be in the recreation program all year long and that more staff will have to be added.

In the four years since Strobbe has been director, the recreation has grown from eight programs and 12 staff members to 19 programs and 53 staff members.

Two new programs to be initiated this summer are self defense karate classes and baton twirling.

He pointed out that instead of teaching arts and crafts and swimming in the summertime, it now will be necessary to have these and other programs all year round.

It also means the baseball program will have to be extended as well as football and basketball, he noted.

"We will just have to play it by ear this first time around," said Strobbe," and find out by trial and error what the recreation needs of our youngsters will be."

Aurora, Ill.
Beacon-News
May 1, 1970

New System At Valley View Schools

Copley News Service

SPRINGFIELD — With weather getting warm and the beginning of summer only a few weeks away, students thoughts are turning to the coming summer vacation.

However, in one school district students instead are looking forward to a new year-round school schedule with a chance to relax and make a fresh start in school by enjoying a 15-day vacation each spring, summer, fall and winter according to State School Supt. Ray Page.

One of the most exciting changes in the educational pattern will occur in Illinois this June at Valley View School District in Romeoville. Using the basic concept of operating school facilities on a year-round basis, the district will start a year-round student schedule that offers success where previous plans have failed.

Supt. Page pointed out that in 1952-53, six one-room school districts were combined to make one of the largest elementary school districts in the state, covering 41.5 square miles. In 1953, there were 200 homes, mostly farms, in the Valley View school district providing 89 pupils.

In 1969, following the subdividing of much of the farmland, there were 5,000 homes in the district with 5,400 students attending six elementary schools. Estimates are that by 1979 there will be over 22,000 pupils in the school district due to the tremendous amount of new homes being built in the area. The area is southwest of Chicago and easily accessible from Interstate 55 and by commuter railroads.

The school district faced the problem of all buildings being utilized, bonding power gone, and state law requiring kindergarten by September 1970. The district did not want 60 or 70 students in each classroom, nor did double sessions seem to be the solution, keeping the best interest of the pupils in mind.

The school district decided on a year-round schedule called the 45-15 plan. The schedule will break the school year into four 45-school-day learning sessions, each followed by a 15-school-day pupil vacation, about nine weeks of school followed by three weeks vacation. The scheduling will therefore allow more frequent intervals whereby the slow learner can catch up with the class. Instead of three long summer months of vacation without any constructive developmental programs, the pupils will have a chance to relax and make a fresh start each spring, summer, fall and winter.

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The Waukegan News-Sun

1871 — FRANK H. JUST, Founder — 1953
F. Ward Just, Editor and Publisher
Ward S. Just, Co-Publisher

"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

—Thomas Jefferson

Page 6A — Waukegan, Illinois, Tuesday, May 5, 1970

Outlook dim for 12-month schools

SCHOOL seems to become more tedious as warm summer days approach, and thoughts of youth tend to turn from the academic to the pleasures of summer vacation.

But that is not the case in Romeoville, Ill. Starting this June the Valley View School District there will begin a year-round operation.

Valley View's schedule will break the school year into four, 45 school-day sessions, each followed by a 15 school-day vacation. It works out to about nine weeks of school, followed by three-week vacations.

There is almost no enthusiasm for such a schedule in Lake County, says school supt. W. C. Petty. There has been some talk in Fox Lake, he said, but the idea never caught on.

Petty expressed doubts that it would. "There's more to this than meets the eye. Most people who propose a year-round system look at school buildings standing idle in the summer and decide that it is a waste," he said.

"But building costs are a relatively small part of total operating costs, and when you start talking about year-round schools, you also have to start talking about year-round salaries and a lot of other things."

Educators in Valley View were aware of these things, but decided their situation was different enough to give it a try. Illinois Schools Supt. Ray Page explained that Valley View differs initially from most districts because it is so large. Six, one-room school districts in a 41-square-mile area were combined eight years ago when there were only 200 homes and 89 students.

By 1969 there were 5,000 homes and 5,400 students, and estimates projected 22,000 elementary pupils in 10 years. The system faced the problem of using all buildings, loss of bonding power, and a state law requiring kindergarten by Sept., 1970.

Not wanting 60 to 70 students in each classroom, and disliking the idea of double sessions, the district decided on the year-round schedule.

Under the plan, only three-fourths of the students will be in school at any time, the rest being on vacation. It is hoped the benefits of the 12-month operation in this special situation will offset increased costs.

And students may find it isn't so bad after all. In addition to the four, three-week vacations, all established holidays will be observed. Parents with school age children will likewise be freer in their vacation planning.

BUT DESPITE those marginal advantages, the fact remains Valley View is a unique district and the likelihood of a year-round district being established in Lake County remains slim.

PROCLAMATION

The following resolution was presented to the Board of Education of School District 96 by Les Fenical, president of the Parent Teachers Organization, on behalf of that orgaization:

THE VALLEY VIEW DISTRICT #96 PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION WORKS TOWARD A HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SCHOOL AND THE COMMUNITY. AS PARENTS, TAXPAYERS, AND CONCERNED CITIZENS THIS ORGANIZATION HAS NOT ONLY THE OPPORTUNITY BUT ALSO THE OBLIGATION TO INVESTIGATE AND EVALUATE THE SIGNIFICANT HAPPENINGS AFFECTING THIS AREA AND ITS RESIDENTS.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE VALLEY VIEW DISTRICT #96 PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION DOES THE FOLLOWING:

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1. ENDORSES THE VALLEY VIEW 45-15 CONTINUOUS SCHOOL YEAR PLAN AS THE MOST LOGICAL, THE MOST REALISTIC, AND THE MOST PRACTICAL WAY TO SCHEDULE PUPILS, SCHOOL STAFF MEMBERS, AND BUILDINGS.

2. ENCOURAGES ALL RESIDENTS AND WORKERS TO BECOME THROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH THE OPERATION OF THEIR SCHOOLS AND THE 45-15 SCHEDULING PATTERN.

3. STRESSES THAT VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #96 CAN PROVIDE THE BESD EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IF ALL PARENTS, CHILDREN, EMPLOYERS, EMPLOYEES, BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS, SCHOOL STAFF MEMBERS, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS ARE COOPERATIVE AND WELL INFORMED.

4. COMMENDS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, THE TEACHERS AND STAFF MEMBERS, AND COUNTY AND STATE EDUCATIONAL LEADERS FOR THEIR COOPERATION, ADVICE, AND EXTRA WORK IN PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE NEEDS OF OUR CHILDREN AND FOR MAKING DIFFICULT AND UNPRECEDENTED DECISIONS.

Joliet Herald News
May 17, 1970

Valley View to begin 45-15 plan

By DOROTHY CRYDER
Herald-News Writer

ROMEOVILLE — "You are saying farewell to an era — the era of traditional nine months school — and we wish you well," said Vernon Crackel, assistant state superintendent of public instruction in Springfield.

Crackel was speaking to the 260 faculty members of the Valley View School District at the final teachers' institute before the initiation of year-round school in the district.

The plan, described by Crackel as "educationally sound, financially desirable and legally possible," will begin June 30.

Officially called Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan, the program was drafted by Supt, Kenneth Hermansen, James Gove and John Lukancic, assistant superintendents, and Patrick Page, research director.

The plan is a scheduling system that utilizes school facilities throughout the entire year.

The pupil population is divided into four equal groups. Each group will have 45 class days and 15 days vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each group, at any one time only three groups will be attending on any one class day.

The four groups always stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group will attend classes 180 days — four sessions of 45 days each.

Valley View District covers 41½ square miles, making it one of the largest elementary school districts in Illinois in area.

It has grown from 89 students with five one-room country schools in 1955 to a projected enrollment of 7,235 for the 1970-71 school year.

It includes five elementary schools — Valley View, Brook View, Park View, North View and Ridge iVew — and West View Junior High School.

"Your school district will soon embark on one of the most notable innovations in American education and all eyes of the nation are focused on you," Crackel told the teachers.

He said the files in the state department office were filled with correspondence relative to the Valley View plan from all over the United States and other countries.

"Your plan is the only one of its kind in the United States and its success depends on you, the classroom teachers," observed Crackel.

Supt. Hermansen explained the plan was born of necessity. The only alternatives to a 12-month school year would be 70 pupils to a class, double sessions or more buildings through a bond issue.

"This would not answer the needs," he explained, "because buildings could not be built in time to accommodate the great influx of students due to compulsory kindergarten this year, which alone will bring in at least 700 extra students.

"Also, with the building of the last two new schools, the district has exhausted its bonding power," he said.

"At this point, I just feel numb," added Hermansen. "After two years of concentrated research and effort on this program, we will have to wait until it starts operating to see if we have thought of everything."

Ronald Strahanoski, curriculum coordinator, said 60 per cent of the teachers had signed contracts to teach on the extended year program. Forty per cent have elected to teach on the traditional 180-day year," he said.

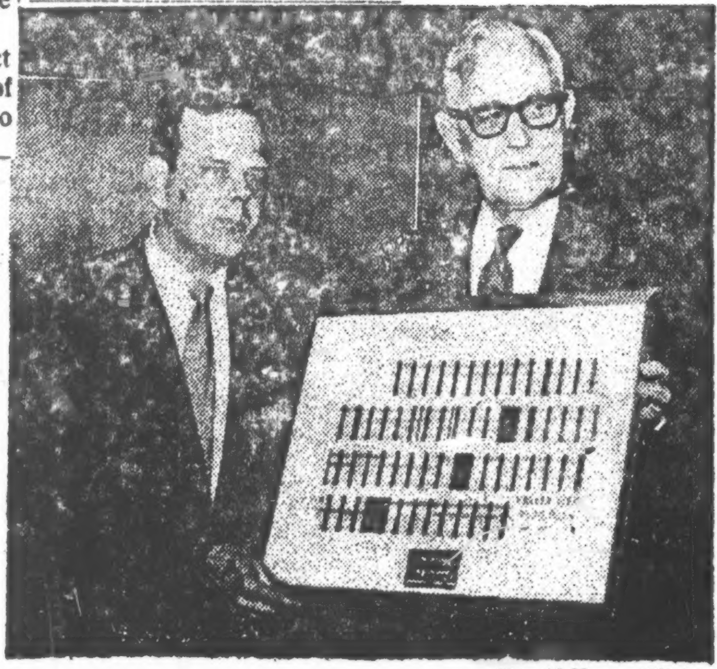
"It is interesting," noted Strahanoski, that all but two male teachers in the district have elected to teach all year-round. This certainly solves the problem of them having to take on extra jobs in the summer."

Strahanoski added the district had offered 24 different types of teaching contracts. "I hate to think what this will do to the business office," he said.

Page pointed out that with the use of computers the problems of scheduling the thousands of pupils are greatly simplified.

"With over 7,000 pupils, six school buildings, four different schedules, nine grade levels, two shifts (morning and afternoon) for kindergarten, 300 different census units (neighborhoods,) and three different boundaries for bus riders, the possible combinations for scheduling reach massive proportions," he said.

"For the mathematically inclined, the number of potential combinations is 7,000 x 6 x 4 x 9 x 2 x 300 x3, or 2,721,000."



(Herald-News Photo)

Gove (left) and Crackel with 45-15 school calendar

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The Beacon
May 20, 1970

OUT WITH THE OLD

IN WITH THE NEW

The teachers and administrators of School District 96 bid an unofficial farewell to the traditional 9-month school year at the last teachers' institute to be held under the old system. Guest speaker before the group was Vern E. Crackel, assistant state superintendent of public instruction.

The Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan was created by order of the Board of Education of the District. It was a plan born of necessity, the alternatives being overcrowded classes of 60 or more students, or double shifts.

Under the plan, which has been two years in the planning and organizing stages, the student population is divided into four nearly equal groups. When the plan starts this June the first of the four groups will start the school year. After 15 school days the second group will start their classes. Fifteen school days later the third group starts, and fifteen school days later the last group starts and the first group starts a 15 school day vacation. Under the new system only three-quarters of the students occupy the buildings at any one time, thus effecting a 33% saving in class room space.

Architects of the new program are Supt. Kenneth Hermansen, assistant superintendents James Gove and John Lukancic, and Pat Page, research director. The task of scheduling was accomplished by Compumatics of Chicago under the direction of local representative Bob Norfleet.

Crackle described the plan as being eductionaly sound, financially desirable and legally possible. He said the plan was the only one of its kind in this country and that educators from all over the United States and other countries were inquiring about the new plan and waiting to see how it works.

Southwest Graphic
May 27, 1970

45-15 Plan Is Discussed

ROMEOVILLE — Verne E. Crackel, assistant state superintendent of Public Instruction, addressed administrators and teachers at an Institute Day held May 15. Crackel wished the entire district success in the 45-15 plan, which will begin June 30.

The 45-15 plan divides the student population into four groups. Three of these groups will be in school, while one group will be having vacation.

The only alternative to the 45-15 plan would be 70 pupils in a class, double sessions, or more buildings. The latter is impossible because the district does not have additional bonding power.

The plan has taken two years of preparation. The enrollment is thn the six district schools is now over 5500 pupils.

State's 1st year-round schools in Romeoville

BY JOSEPH HOPKINS

A COMMUNITY 10 miles north of Joliet will have the state's first year-round school system late this month.

Valley View district 96 in Romeoville [population 14,000] will substitute a year-round "45-15 plan" for the traditional academic year.

The 7,000 students in the district will be divided into four groups which will attend school for 45 days and vacation for 15. The first group will begin June 30 with a new group starting every 3 weeks.

As the last group begins school, the first will begin vacation, so there never will be more than three groups in school at once.

WHAT LED TO THE year-round plan was the doubling of population in the area during the last decade, especially since the opening of the Stevenson expressway.

Valley View built new schools, but it couldn't keep up with the population surge. Robert Norfleet, a consultant to Valley View who works for Computmatics Educational service, said: "Since we reached our legal bonding limit [5 per cent of assessed valuation], it was impossible to ask the community to authorize additional bonds."

The district ultimately chose the year-round school year rather than adopting double shifts or asking the Illinois School Building commission to build schools and lease them to the district.

The new plan automatically will increase classroom space by 33 per cent without additional construction.

6-16-70

CHICAGO TODAY

SCHOOL DISTRICT GETS GRANT
OFFERED LOAN TO BUILD SCHOOLS

School District 96 will be the recipient of a $115,000 state grant, and the district was offered interest free state money for building schools. These announcements were made at the recent meeting of the board of education at Park View School.

The state grant will be used for disseminating information on the school's unique 45-15 year around plan. James Gold, administrative assistant, stated that the school had received well over two hundred requests for information on the new plan which goes into effect the end of this month. These inquiries have come from all parts of the United States. The grant for the first year will be $38,800; for the second year, $36,900; for the third year $34,900.

Gove also reported that the Illinois School Building Commission had informed him that the district would be eligible for state loaned interest free money for building additional school facilities. Gove explained that a favorable referendum would have to be passed if this money were to be used. The matter was referred to the Building Committee for recommendation. Gove stated that with the growth of the district indications are that even with the 45-15 year around school plan the schools would be overcrowded by the 1971-72 school year if additional facilities were not provided.

Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen reported on a meeting of the area school superintendents with the Rev. Niles Gilen of the Joliet area Archdiocese Board of Education. The superintendents were informed that the parochial schools of the area were faced with one of four choices. One was that each parish would handle its own finances, a second choice was that all parochial schools be closed for Sept. and Oct. with the school space and teachers rented to the public school districts, a third choice was to cut out some grades, and a fourth choice was closing the schools. The Rev. Gilen said he had suggested that each of the parochial schools take its own course of action. There are two Catholic parochial schools in the district 96 area. Hermansen said he expected to be notified shortly on which of the four courses these schools would be taking.

Hermansen asked the board to consider dropping the three dollar workbook fee to the students for the coming year. The board agreed to this by unanimous vote.

A student dress code was also discussed by the superintendent. He suggested an outline of a policy to be adopted or revised by the board. Essentially the policy was such that the apparel worn by students would be controlled to a large extent by the discretion of the parents. The board did not act upon this, but did take in under consideration.

James Gove announced that Harry Delfs, multimedia director of the district, would be presenting a program at the next meeting of the grade school board.

Personnel committee recommendations on hiring of teachers, nurses, and other personnel were accepted by the board. Thirteen teacher contracts were offered and Mr. Ron Strahnowski was elevated to the post of Administrative Assistant to Assistant Superintendent John Lukansic.

Attorney Eugene Korst reported that the Illinois Commerce Comm. now has the complaint before it against the Illinois Bell Telephone Co. The school recently decided to cite the company for monopolistic practices in denying it certain wire facilities which enable it to transmit educational television programs from one school to another.

The Beacon
June 17, 1970
page 6

Joliet Herald-News
June 19, 1970

Valley View School project given state grant

SPRINGFIELD — Ray Page, Illinois superintendent of public instruction, announced today that a grant of $37,509.76 has been awarded to Valley View Community School District 96 in Lockport.

The grant was awarded under the provisions of Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and will support the first year of Valley View's all-year school operation. The project is tentatively scheduled for three years.

The project will demonstrate the feasibility of an all-year operation in an elementary school district. The district operates continuously with students attending school for 45 days and out of school for 15 days on a rotating basis. The district is making information available to all interested school districts in the state concerning the methods used, problems encountered and the financial implications involved.

The Beacon
June 17, 1970

OGILVIE TO DEDICATE 45-15 HERE

Governor Richard Ogilvie will be at West View Jr. High School in Romeoville on Monday, June 29th, to inaugurate the School District #96 45-15 Year Around School Plan. The inauguration of this plan marks a milestone in education and is being observed by many school districts throughout the country.

The governor will be introduced by Ray Page, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Other dignitaries will also be present.

The ceremonies start at 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

The Beacon
June 17, 1970

COMPUTER IS NOT IMPERSONAL

Most computerized mailing lists and other lists of people are coldly impersonal. Ironically, the data-processing used for the 45-15 Plan for the Valley View Schools is unusual because the system retains the individual name and the family name instead of converting everything to a series of long numbers.

Ogilvie to Sign Year-Round School Bill

By BRUCE SMITH

The 12-month school year in Illinois is to get the governor's approval, The Trib has learned.

An aide to Gov. Ogilvie indicated Friday that Ogilvie will sign SB-1438 into law at special ceremonies June 29 in Valley View Elementary School district 96 in Will county. The ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m. in West View Junior High school, 590 Belmont, Romeoville.

The bill allows Illinois public school districts to operate on a 12-month plan. District 96, which feeds some students into Naperville High School district 107, is to begin a 12-month operation June 30.

A similar bill was approved last year but vetoed by Ogilvie on a technicality.

The 45-15 plan to be used by district 96 is one of two 12-month programs being discussed by Du Page and Cook county school administrators. The other is the four-quarter plan now in use in the public high school system of Atlanta, Ga.

Five west suburban educators made a four-day visit to that school system this month. The School Calendar Study Committee of Du Page County is studying revising the school calendar in Du Page county.

The Atlanta 12-month plan was adopted to upgrade the educational system. Valley View adopted its program because of a lack of money to build additional facilities for an expected fall enrollment increase of 1,700 pupils.

The Atlanta plan operates with a nonsequential curriculum with all courses terminating at the end of a quarter. Students may attend three quarters to fulfill their school year requirement or they may attend all four quarters. Course classes often meet only two or three times weekly instead of the usual five times under conventional class schedules.

Beginning with the 1970-71 school year, Illinois public school districts must provide a kindergarten in addition to the regular 12 grades.

This will be the first year for a kinder-

Please turn to page 2

Your Community Newspaper

The Trib

SW MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1970

Learn Ogilvie to Sign 12-Month School Bill

From page 1

garten in district 96. The district started the 1969-70 school year with about 5,400 pupils and had about 5,500 in March. It expects to have about 7,200 for the 1970-71 school year.

The 45-15 plan going into effect June 30 in district 96 was developed by the school district. The district secured a copyright on the plan in August.

The reason given for getting a copyright was that some educators were beginning to describe the plan without verifying their information with the plan's developers.

The 45-15 plan divides enrollment into quarters. Pupils attend school for 45 class days and then have 15 class days of vacation. The cycle repeats itself four times yearly, providing each pupil with the 180 school days required by Illinois statutes.

There are additional vacation periods for all students at traditional holiday periods such as Christmas.

Under the plan, three-quarters of a districts's pupils are in school while one-quarter are on vacation. The plan allows the trict's pupils are in school while one-quaroperating 12 months a year and increasing its enrollment by one-third without building additional facilities that would be required in a traditional nine-month school year.

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Joliet Herald-News
June 23, 1970

Valley View schools to get state loan

ROMEOVILLE — The Illinois School Building Commission has informed the Valley View School District that the district is eligible for state-loaned, interest-free money for building additional school facilities.

Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen said that a favorable referendum is necessary if the money is to be used.

He said there will be a special school board meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Park View School to adopt a resolution for the referendum.

"At this point, it looks like it will be a three-part referendum with a tax rate increase of about 10 cents per $100 assessed valuation or an increase in taxes of $15 to $19 yearly for the average homeowner," Hermansen said.

He said that buildings would include a 30-room school in Indian Oaks Subdivision on land which has been donated by Hoffman and Rosner Builders, a 15-room addition at Ridge View School in Romeoville and a 15-room addition at Brook View School in Bolingbrook.

Hersmansen said that with the rapid growth of the district, even with the 45-15 year-around school plan the schools would be overcrowded by the 1971-72 school year if additional facilities are not provided.

He said that by taking advantage of interest-free money, a savings of $1 million in interest could be achieved for the district.

Joliet Herald-News
June 23, 1970

Gov. Ogilvie at West View June 29

ROMEOVILLE — Governor Richard B. Ogilvie will be at West View Junior High School in Romeoville on Monday, June 29, to inaugurate Valley View School District's 45-15 Year Around School Plan.

Gov. Ogilvie will sign an educational bill into law which will allow schools to enter into year-round school programs.

The ceremonial signing and program will be at 3 p.m. and is open to the public.

The inauguration of the plan which goes into effect on June 30 will mark a milestone in education and represents two years of concentrated study and research by administration members of the district.

The plan is a scheduling system that utilizes school facilities throughout the whole year.

The pupil population is divided into four equal groups. Each of the four groups of pupils will attend 45 class days and then have 15 class days vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each of the groups, at any one time only three of the groups will be attending on any one class day.

The four groups always stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group will attend classes 180 days, four sessions of 45 days per session.

The Beacon
June 24, 1970

Ogilvie Here Monday

Illinois Gov. Richard Ogilvie will take part in special ceremonies at West View Jr. High on June 29. He will sign SB-1438, the bill allowing Illinois public schools to operate on a 12-month plan, into law.

The 45-15 Plan, to be inaugurated by District 96 the following day, is the first of such plans to be tried in the State.

The ceremonies start at 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Other dignitaries will be present, possibly including State Representative Bill Barr.

Lockport Shopper
June 25, 1970

APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR FUNLAND CHILDREN CENTER

The Funland Children Center, in Bolingbrook, is accepting applications for the 3-week vacation periods, provided in the 45-15 Plan, for kindergarteners, first and second graders. We will provide day care for these older children during the whole year starting on June 30, 1970. There will be one field trip during each 3 week period in the spring, summer and fall. This "Elementary school" group will be limited to 12 children.

Applications are also being accepted for nursery, Jr. kindergarten classes, and full time day care. Please call 739-7354 for further information.

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14 CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, Saturday-Sunday, June 27-28, 1970

2,000 try all-year schooling

By George Harmon

The Klewitz children probably expected their lives to be a little different once the family moved this week from Gurne in Lake County to Bolingbrook in Will County.

But they couldn't have imagined just how much their life-styles will change.

Tusday the Klewitzes, along with nearly 2,000 other kids, start summer classes as Valley View School District 96 begins its unique year-round school program.

No summer camp. No all-day beach outings. No leisurely Tuesday visits to the Zoo.

BUT SCHOOL officials say no one seems to object.

The children still have the same number of vacation days each year and their folks are getting more mileage out of their education taxes.

Valley View, a 41½-square-mile district embracing the farmlands and subdivisions of northwest Will County, calls it the "45-15" plan." It works this way:

All children are divided into four groups, with children of the same family and same neighborhood (where possible) in the same groups.

Each division goes to school for 45 days and then has a 15-day vacation. Starting times are staggered 15 days apart so that only three groups are in school at the same time.

Four 45-day sessions equal 180 school days—4 more than the state requirement.

SCHOOL OFFICIALS, led by asst. Supt. James Gove, devised the plan because more classrooms are needed and bonding power is at its limit.

Pat Page, the district's research director, said studies indicate there will be 20,000 homes and 22,000 pupils in the district by 1979.

Cheryl Klewitz, 12 (left), and her sister Pamela, 6, hit the books in their home at 372 Bedford Lane, Bolingbrook.

In 1953 there were 200 homes and 89 students.

This year alone, enrollment jumps 1,500 with the addition of kindergarten classes and 300 to 500 new residents like the Krewitz kids.

THE AREA, STILL 80 per cent rural, has become a real estate "boomtown" for developers selling homes to men who work in Joliet, Aurora or the southwest Chicago area.

Once-sleepy hamlets such as Romeoville are now thriving exurbs.

"The developer can pay much more for farmland than what a farmer can earn from it," said Page. "It's reached a point where the best thing you can do is sell your farm and move to a new farm 30 miles west."

THE "45-15" plan will save taxpayers the $4 to $6 million it would cost to build two 30-room schools.

Reprinted, courtesy of the Chicago Tribune.

Joan Beck's Mail

'Vacation Doesn't Have to Be Summer'

● DEAR MRS. BECK: I am a regular reader of your column, always with interest, often with agreement and sometimes not. This is one of the sometimes, regarding your comment about the values of summer vacation ["Making Summer a Memorable Adventure," June 16].

I do agree that children [and teachers] need a break for several months. But I don't think it needs to be in summer. In some school systems which conduct school the year around, students must attend three out of four quarters and they [and their parents] may select the free quarter in summer, winter, spring, or fall.

One big advantage of this optional choice is that it would distribute the children using the facilities more equitably. Outdoor pools could often be used very comfortably in May and September as well as July and August. Indoor pools, parks, and playgrounds could be enjoyed the year around.

Travel facilities for campers, resortgoers, hikers, and other vacationers would be less crowded in the summer months and probably less expensive. Nature hikes could demonstrate nature rather than birds competing with multitudinous voices and transistors. Volunteer work and jobs for high school students would obviously be more profitably operated on a year-round basis, rather than everyone competing in summer for those that exist.

Students would be entering schools at various times during the year, but many of our schools are large enough to sustain this by reorganizing grouping. In some cases, this could perhaps reduce class size.

Like you, I am strongly opposed to year-around school. But there would be many advantages to having the long vacation on a staggered optional basis.

M. H. L.
Chicago

● DEAR MRS. BECK: I read with interest your article, "Making Summer a Memorable Adventure." Let me preface any further comment by stating that the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce is on record as advocating the year-around use of school facilities if such will contribute to increasing educational opportunity and a more efficient use of public revenues.

Year-around school plans do not mean that children attend school for 12 months of the year. Any such plan devised by a school district would be doomed to failure at the outset. Children must have vacation breaks — and teachers, too — if we expect them to relate to the wonderful world outside the classroom and have the opportunity to relax and develop their own style of maturity in a less rigid atmosphere.

Since 1904, experiments have been undertaken thruout the nation to change the school year to provide educational and social advantages. One by one those school districts that have had the courage to affect these changes have abandoned their efforts. The basic idea is sound, but the specific procedures for implementation were faulty.

As you are probably aware, there is once again a renewed interest in breaking away from the lockstep nine-month continuous school year.

One of the most promising programs to be devised will begin its operation on Tuesday in Valley View school district 96 in Romeoville, about 35 miles southwest of Chicago.

Under the Valley View plan, each child will be provided four seasonal vacations of 15 school days [three weeks]. It will not increase the total number of school days of attendance in any one year.

We of the State Chamber of Commerce recognize that to make a change in the scheduling of a school year requires the cooperation of the business community to change its operation, which is presently adjusted to the three month's summer vacation. Hopefully, with a proper understanding, other segments of society will be willing to cooperate to the fullest extent with those school districts which have devised sound programs for year-around operation.

ROBERT M. BECKWITH
Illinois State Chamber of Commerce
Chicago

Chicago Tribune
June 28, 1970
Sec. 5, p. 10
Part 1 of 2

Reprinted, courtesy of the Chicago Tribune.

Many plans for using school buildings the year-around have been developed in recent years, including at least one which requires all-year attendance by students except for four weeks in August. But most of these programs are only theories and never attracted enough support to be put into operation. In some cases, scheduling difficulties could not be overcome. Others were educationally unsound or prohibitively expensive. I've still not seen a year-around plan in operation which gave youngsters a better total experience than the traditional nine-months-in-school-with-a-summer vacation, but I'm still willing to keep checking such plans out.

Valley View's plan divides the district's kindergarten-thru-8th-grade pupils into four groups. The first group will begin a new school year Tuesday, attend classes for 45 school days [nine weeks], and then have a vacation of 15 school days before starting another 45-day school cycle. The second group will start school July 21 and the third on August 11. At this time, classrooms will essentially be in full use. When the last group comes back to school in early September, the first group will begin its first three-week vacation.

Teachers in Valley View district have the choice of teaching on a 45-to-15 school-vacation cycle at the usual salary scales, which start at $7,200 for beginning teachers, or a teacher can select year-around employment, with vacations during the usual school holidays and a one to two-week "adjusting period" in July. These teachers will receive a one-third increase in salary.

Most primary teachers in Valley View school district have opted for the 45-to-15 plan, says Pat Page, research director for the district, who worked out the new program. A majority of junior high school teachers, including a higher proportion of men, have chosen the year-long job.

Year-around operation of schools was chosen not primarily for any educational advantages, but because it was the only available alternative to double shifts, explains Page. The district has grown from five one-room school houses in 1953 to six large buildings, including youngsters from both Romeoville and Bolingwood. Enrollment is already more than 5,500 pupils and is expected to go to more than 7,000 next year with the addition of kindergarten.

District 96 has already reached its bonding limit and could not raise funds or build new facilities fast enough to avoid double shifts without the year-around plan, Page says. "Lockport High school district, where most of these youngsters go, is already on double shifts, with no indication when these can be ended," he says. "Without some kind of year-around plan, a child here could continue on double shifts for 12 years."

He estimates that the year-around operation will give the district the equivalent of a 6-million-dollar building program, including interest on bonds, and will buy an extra 18 months of time before more new classrooms are needed..

"Scheduling problems are astromonical," he says. The district uses a computer to make sure that all of the youngsters in one family and those in the same small neighborhood area go to school at the same times. After the youngsters are scheduled, teachers are assigned and bus routes plotted.

"This plan might not work for every school district, but it will work for us."

Chicago Tribune
June 28, 1970
Part 2 of 2

Chicago Tribune
June 28, 1970

Reprinted, courtesy of the Chicago Tribune.

Valley View Schools to Begin Operation on 12-Month Basis

Valley View School district No. 96 will start the first session of its new 12-month school system Tuesday.

James R. Gove, Valley View assistant superintendent and project director, said the continous school year plan was developed as a solution to overcrowding.

The problem began two years ago, he said, when the district reached its maxium bonding power for buildings. It grew more serious when the state passed a law requiring all public schools to provide kindergartens after July 1, 1970.

District Faced Overcrowding

The district was faced with the alternatives of packing 60 or more students into a classroom, holding half-day sessions, or coming up with a plan to utilize the building space available on a continuing basis to accommodate a greater number of students.

Called the 45-15 plan, the school's total attendance is divided into four groups, and the starting times of each group are staggered.

For example, group A will begin a 45-day session June 30, group B, July 21 and group C, Aug. 11. This fills the school buildings to capacity. By the time group D is ready to begin classes Sept. 1, group A is ready for a 15-day vacation period. When group A is ready to come back, group B is ready for its 15-day vacation. This continues so each group attends classes the required 180 days, and has a 25-day vacation during each season of the year. In addition, students are off for one week at Christmas, one week at Easter and an additional week and a half during the summer.

Gore explained that under this program, teachers may choose to teach all year or the conventional 9 months. He said 37 per cent of the district teachers still wish to teach on the 9-month system. Minimum starting salary for teachers on the 9-month schedule is $7,200, for the 12-month schedule it's **$9,600.**

Gore said 3,000 families were informed of the system schedule and their children's group designation last Christmas. Since that time, his office has received only three complaints.

Gov. Ogilvie will attend a ceremony Monday at West View Junior High school, 590 Bellmont av., Romeoville, and sign senate bill 1438, which allows for year-round school systems, into law.

The Board of Education

Valley View School District #96

Invites all residents to see and hear

The Honorable Richard B. Ogilvie
Governor of the State of Illinois

When: Monday, June 29, 1970
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Where: West View Junior High School
For: A ceremonial signing into law of an educational bill for year round schools

Ray Page, Illinois Superintendent of Public Instruction, will introduce the Governor.

This ceremonial signing and program will be a memorable and educational experience for school children of all ages and for parents and taxpayers of this area.

The West View Viking Band will play.

Our communities will be represented by:

John O'Hara, Mayor of the Village of Romeoville
Robert Schanks, Mayor of the Village of Bolingbrook
Roy Hassert, Chairman, Will County Board of Supervisors
William J. Crowley, President, Ill. State Chamber of Commerce
Boyd R. Bucher, Superintendent, Educational Service Region
Your school board members and school administrators

Ogilvie signs Valley View school bill

Joliet Herald-News
June 29, 1970

ROMEOVILLE —Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie signed into law Valley View School District's 45-15 year-around school plan in ceremonies held here today.

The educational bill, which allows schools to enter into year-around school programs, will go into effect Tuesday.

The signing of the bill marks a milestone in education and represents two years of concentrated study and research by administration members of the district.

The plan is a scheduling system that utilizes school facilities throughout the whole year.

The pupil population is divided into four equal groups. Each of the four groups of pupils will attend 45 class days and then have 15 class days vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each of the groups, only three of the groups will be attending on any one class day.

The four groups always stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group will attend classes 180 days, four sessions of 45 days per session.

The governor also attended ceremonies for the new Union Oil Co. of California refinery on Illinois 171 in Lockport.

Following Ogilvie's keynote address, he and Fred L. Hartley, president of Union Oil, completed the ceremonies by turning the valves to let crude oil flow into the refinery for the first time.

The new refinery includes an environmental control unit.

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June 30, 1970
Page 1

SCHOOL DISTRICT 96
TELEVISION

(Herald-News Photo)

OGILVIE SIGNS YEAR-ROUND SCHOOL BILL
In foreground are Ray Page, Kenneth Hermansen
and James Bingle

Joliet Herald News
June 30, 1970
Page 1

All-year school program begins

By DOROTHY CRYDER
Herald-News Writer

ROMEOVILLE — "I haven't seen a school desk like this in more years than I care to remember," said Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie as he sat at a vintage "row type" desk of yesteryear and signed into law a bill which allows year-round school.

The ceremonial signing and program was Monday afternoon in the gym at West View Junior High School.

The Valley View School District began today the first session of its new 12-month school system, called the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan.

"I think it is a sign of healthy growth for school districts to experiment with different concepts in education," said Ogilvie. "I feel confident that Plan 45-15 will work for you and will answer the needs of this community."

Ogilvie said the new educational bill allowing year-round school is optional to school districts.

"We have not made this bill mandatory as we did kindergarten because we recognize that this plan is experimental," he said.

"We hope this venture works for you and we hope that eventually it can be adapted for other school districts with similar problems — namely Chicago."

Ogilvie said he had been a part of three things Monday which would have a far-reaching effect on the community of Romeoville. Besides the signing of the educational bill to allow year-round school, he listed the dedication of the new Union Oil Refinery and the signing earlier in the day of the Environmental Protection Act at a meeting of the National Association of Attorneys General in St. Charles.

Ogilvie said the new refinery will mean much added employment in the Romeoville area, will offer economic advantages and, last but not least, provide the highest tax base in the community to help support the schools.

"On my way over to your school I was greeted by residents in front of Commonwealth Edison Co. orderly protesting pollution in the community. The environmental protection bill signed this morning will control air, water, soil and noise pollution and is the strongest pollu-

(Continued on Page Three)

Joliet Herald News
June 30, 1970
(continued from page 1)

All-year school program begins

(Continued from Page One)

tion law in the country," Ogilvie said.

James Bingle, president of the ValleyView School Board, explained to guests that the year-round school was born of necessity. The problem began two years ago, he said, when the district reached its maximum bonding power for buildings. It grew more serious when the Legislature passed a law requiring all public schools to provide kindergartens after Sept. 1, 1970.

The district was faced with the alternatives of packing 60 or more students into a classroom, holding half-day sessions, or coming up with a plan to utilize the building space available on a continuing basis to accommodate a greater number of students.

Under Plan 45-15, the school's total attendance is divided into four groups. The starting times of each group are staggered so that only three of the groups will be attending on any one class day.

Each group attends class for 45 class days and has 15 class days vacation. The groups keep rotating on a continuous basis with each group attending classes 180 days, or four sessions of 45 days, per session.

"I hope you give me this same kind of greeting six months from today," said Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent of the district, after receiving a warm welcome from the guests.

Hermansen observed that it was 17 years ago this week that he became superintendent of the district, which at that time had five one-room county schools and 89 students. "Now we number about 7,000 students," he said.

"It is with tremendous pride that I participate in this ceremony," said Ray Page, state superintendent of public instruction. "Illinois is about to make history as the 'education state of the world' with the initiation of your unique plan of year-round school.

"You will run into problems, but I have confidence in your administration, your school board and in the citizens of this community."

All board members of the Valley View School District were present — Ernesto Edsall, vice president of the board; Robert Noethen, secretary; George Hassert, Kenneth Kibler, John Strobbe and Bruce Webster, former president. Also introduced was Harold Lindstrom, who retired from the board in April after serving nine years.

Others attending the ceremony were Boyd R. Bucher, superintendent of the Will County Educational Service Region; William J. Crowley, president of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Roy Hassert, chairman of the Will County Board of Supervisors; John O'Hara, mayor of Romeoville; and Robert Schanks, mayor of Bolingbrook.

Joliet Herald News
June 30, 1970

Year 'round school is now a reality

By DOROTHY CRYDER
Herald-News Writer

ROMEOVILLE— Remember the long summer vacations, June through August, that school kids used to get?

Well these are a thing of the past to almost 7,000 pupils in Valley View District's six schools in Romeoville and Bolingbrook.

School bells were ringing today as the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan, the first of its kind in the nation, went into effect.

All children in kindergarten through eighth grades have been placed in four groups, "A" through "D". Each group will attend school for 45 class days except weekends and holidays and then have 15 class days of vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each of the groups, at any one time, only three of the groups will be attending on any one class day.

The plan for the pioneer venture was drafted by Supt. Kenneth Hermansen; assistant superintendents James Gove and John Lukancic, and Patrick Page, research director.

Group A which includes about 1,600 students, began school today with regular class hours and periods.

Group B begins July 21, with Group C attending classes for the first time Aug. 11

At this point there is a 100 per cent utilization of the 180 classrooms, said assistant superintendent James Gove.

On Aug. 31, Group A finishes 45 days of school and goes home for 15 days of vacation. On Sept. 1, Group D moves into the empty classrooms of Group A. Come Sept. 22, Group B concludes its 45 days and leaves for 15 days. Group A returns to classes the following day. Group C ends 45 days of school on Oct. 14, with Group B returning from vacation on the 15th.

And so the cycle goes for 12 months of the year. Each group attends school the requisite 180 days

The 45-15 plan gives every family a 3-week vacation in every season of the year, Gove points out. "In addition, students receive a week off at Christmas, Easter and during the summer."

Gove said care has been taken that all children from the same family ended up in the same group. The neighborhood concept has been followed so that "when Johnny is in school, his next door neighbor Mary is there also."

Teachers were given the choice of teaching throughout the year or following the 45-15 schedule with their students. According to Ronald N. Strahanoski, curriculum coordinator, the faculty members are pleased with the plan and have ironed out contractural and seniority questions in committees.

Those teachers who have chosen to work 45 days and then take 15 days vacation feel this plan gives them more time at home throughout the year, Strahanoski said.

Other teachers will work year-round, the maximum 244 days, with a week of vacation at Christmas, Easter and the summer. They like not having to look for a summer job to supplement their incomes.

Strahanoski explained that salaries have been adjusted according to the number of days at work. A starting teacher who elects to work 244 days will receive $9,200 with maximum ceiling at $16,000, he said.

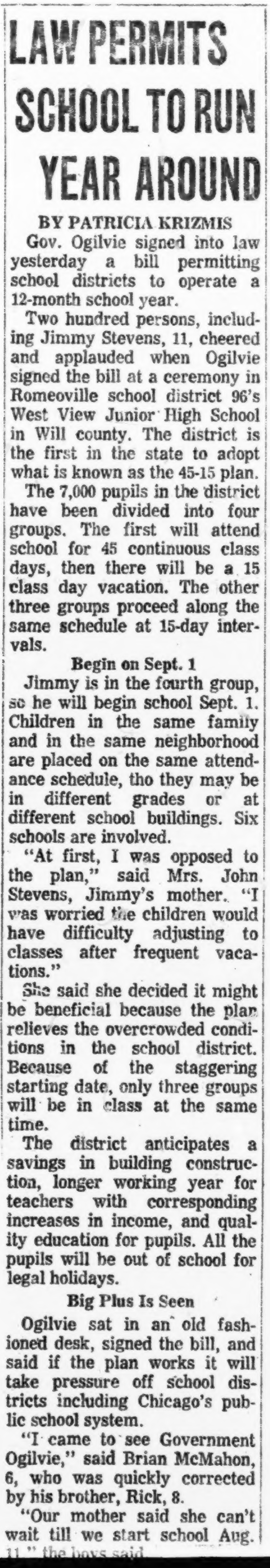
Strahanoski doesn't anticipate any great changes in the curriculum He points out that 45 days corresponds to the 9-week quarter. Currently students have been on a four-quarter grading system. So instead of concentrating four grading periods in nine months, Valley View is spreading it over 12 months.

"it's the calendar that's been changed, not the curriculum. Furthermore, it is so structured that every child will graduate in the summer, before the traditional September entrance to Lockport High School," says Strahanoski.

Valley View has received a $43,720 federal grant to develop a fiscal analysis comparing the cost of 45-15 over a 10-year period with the cost of the traditional 9-month system. Part of the grant will go toward a research design to evaluate pupil achievement under the program.

"We're instituting the plan as a permanent way of life, not as an experiment," said Gove. "That's why we don't want outside funds financing the operation of the program."

Gov. Richard Ogilvie attended a ceremony Monday at West View Junior High School and signed Senate Bill 1438 which allows year-round school systems in Illinois.



LAW PERMITS SCHOOL TO RUN YEAR AROUND

BY PATRICIA KRIZMIS

Gov. Ogilvie signed into law yesterday a bill permitting school districts to operate a 12-month school year.

Two hundred persons, including Jimmy Stevens, 11, cheered and applauded when Ogilvie signed the bill at a ceremony in Romeoville school district 96's West View Junior High School in Will county. The district is the first in the state to adopt what is known as the 45-15 plan.

The 7,000 pupils in the district have been divided into four groups. The first will attend school for 45 continuous class days, then there will be a 15 class day vacation. The other three groups proceed along the same schedule at 15-day intervals.

Begin on Sept. 1

Jimmy is in the fourth group, so he will begin school Sept. 1. Children in the same family and in the same neighborhood are placed on the same attendance schedule, tho they may be in different grades or at different school buildings. Six schools are involved.

"At first, I was opposed to the plan," said Mrs. John Stevens, Jimmy's mother. "I was worried the children would have difficulty adjusting to classes after frequent vacations."

She said she decided it might be beneficial because the plan relieves the overcrowded conditions in the school district. Because of the staggering starting date, only three groups will be in class at the same time.

The district anticipates a savings in building construction, longer working year for teachers with corresponding increases in income, and quality education for pupils. All the pupils will be out of school for legal holidays.

Big Plus Is Seen

Ogilvie sat in an old fashioned desk, signed the bill, and said if the plan works it will take pressure off school districts including Chicago's public school system.

"I came to see Government Ogilvie," said Brian McMahon, 6, who was quickly corrected by his brother, Rick, 8.

"Our mother said she can't wait till we start school Aug. 11," the boys said.

Reprinted, courtesy of the Chicago Tribune.

Chicago Tribune
June 30, 1970

The Beacon
July 1, 1970

GOVERNOR SIGNS SCHOOL BILL HERE

Governor Richard Ogilvie fans the ink dry on the new law which makes year around schools legal in Illinois.

The governor appeared at West View Jr. High School Monday for the official signing of the bill. The following day, June 30th, the 45-15 Plan started.

Standing to the right of the governor is Ray Page, state superintendent of Public Instruction, to Page's left are John Crowley, president of the Will County Manufacturers Association; Mayor Robert Schanks of Bolingbrook; Mayor John O'Hara of Romeoville (partly hidden; and Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent of School District 96.

Other dignitaries present included Will County Superintendent of Public Instruction, Boyd R. Bucher; James Bingle, president of the District 96 Board of Education and his board members; and Will County Clerk of Courts Clara Hartley Woodard.

Earlier that the the governor had appeared at the open house ceremonies of the new Union Oil Company complex.

2

Joliet Herald News
July 5, 1970
Editorial Page

7-5-70

PROD n NOD

might happen for county board members? With a concentrated get-out-the vote in such as Joliet, or Bolingbrook, or Crete it is not inconceivable that 20 members could be elected at large from one of those areas and the other nine from all other areas.

It seems that the time is appropriate for the legislative committee to make a decision, pass the recommendation on to the county board and get a reapportionment for fair representation on the board, as the state law intended. The board can determine if the election is to be by districts or at-large. If by districts the county must be divided into the same number of districts as members to be elected. Each district is to contain an equal population, to be as contiguous a territory as practicable (in other words, no gerrymandering to assure certain solid Democratic or Republican strongholds getting specific candidates elected). The board also is supposed to observe municipal and township lines wherever practicable unless the population requirement would be violated.

The state's attorney's office would not have been adulterated by a justice which seems to have become blind and deaf when it comes to the rights of the people.

So, who was adulterated?

All-year school

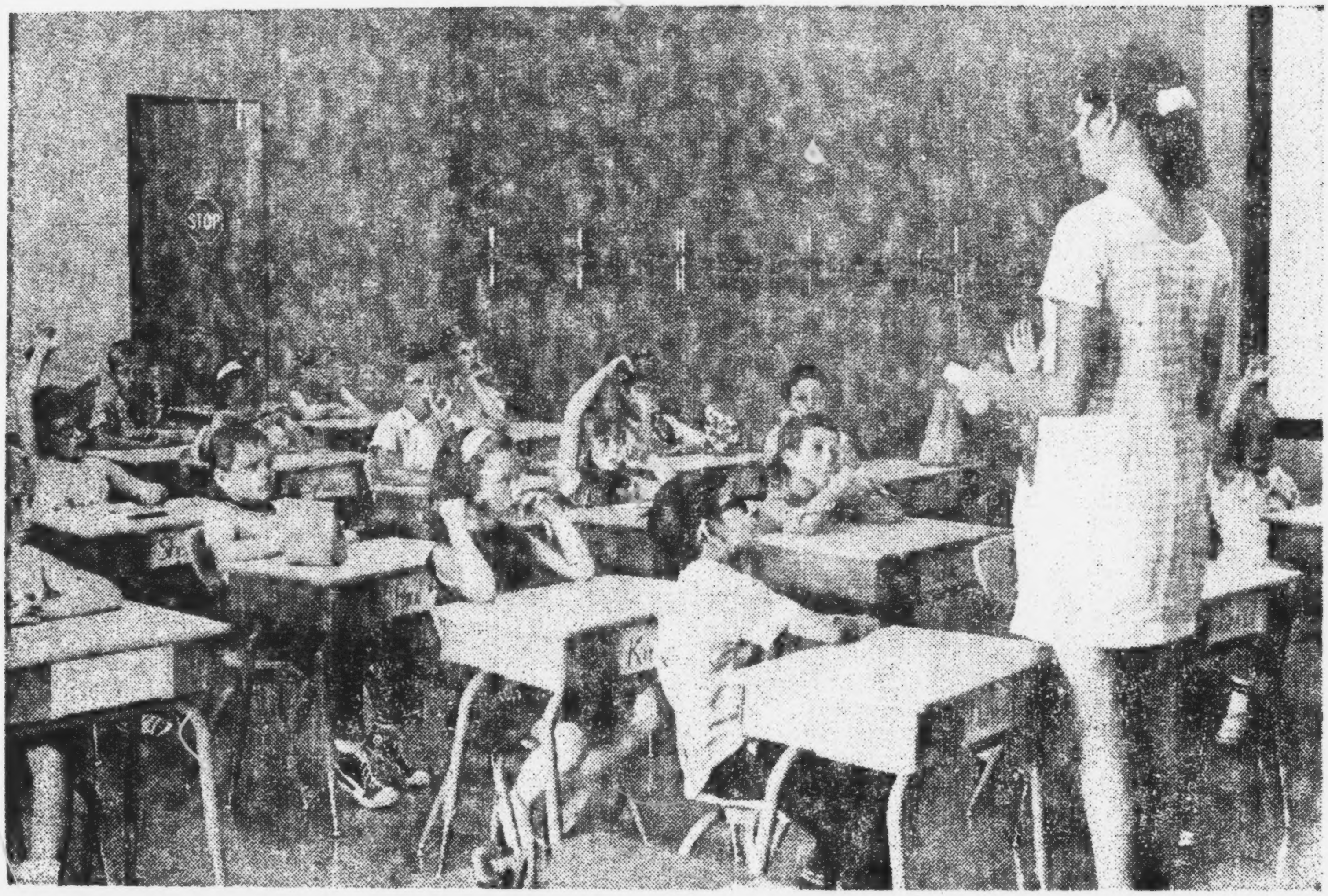
Last week the Valley View school district began the first session of its new 12-month school system, called the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan.

It is a start in the right direction. School facilities are costly. It makes sense they should be used in the same manner as industrial facilities — on a year-around basis.

It is an experimental plan, the first in the state. It is bold in its concept. It could be a forerunner of other, similar plans.

The increasingly high cost of education calls for new, bold approaches. One that is not so new, or so bold, is that of a unit district, once rejected in Joliet but worthy of another try.

July 1, 1970 pge. 1 Joliet Herald News



Second graders at Ridge View School with teacher Mrs. Wynn Zarlenga

Kids back in classes; attitudes groovy, gloomy

By DOROTHY CRYDER
Herald-News Writer

ROMEOVILLE — "Hi, John." "Hey, Jim." "Lo, Allan, I see you got rooked too." "Oh, Mary, isn't this groovy?" "Julie, I missed you." "Good grief, I didn't even get a vacation yet."

The comments were many and varied as children in the Valley View School District Tuesday made history by beginning school operated on a year-round basis.

The teachers were enthusiastic, some of the children reluctant and the parents a little overwhelmed by it all.

The 7,000 children affected by the new program have seen the last of those lazy, hazy days of summer vacations.

And the Valley View School District — nestled among the cornfields and subdivisions along the Des Plaines River — has put itself on the educational map.

"Oh, it's OK I guess. I really don't mind it," said John Fragale who began seventh grade at West View Junior High School.

"I'm not too excited about it," said his friend Tony Davila. "I could have gone to Mexico this summer if it hadn't been for the beginning of school."

John and Tony were only two of the first group of students, about 1,800, who began school Tuesday on the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan.

The plan is a scheduling system that utilizes school facilities throughout the whole year. Students are divided into four equal groups. Each of the four groups of pupils attends 45 class days of school and then has 15 class days vacation.

The first group will finish the 45 class days on Aug. 31 and will have 15 class days of vacation which will be followed by a new 45-day class session starting Sept. 22. The other groups proceed along the same schedule at 15-day intervals.

Each student will have four three-week vacations, in addition to Christmas week, Easter week and a 10-day period at the beginning of summer.

Teachers who so desire can be in class for 240 days instead of the usual 180 and earn $9,000 to $16,000 for the full year.

"Except for the fact that it was the hottest day of the year,

(Continued on Page 31)

Joliet HERALD-NEWS

Vol. 66-303 ★ Joliet, Illinois, Wednesday, July 1, 1970 60 Pages 10 Cents

Kids groovy, gloomy as classes resume

(Continued from Page One)

the first day of year-round school went off without a hitch," said Patrick Page, research director for the district.

Page said the district had a few families who had just moved in and whose children were not scheduled come in just to find out what was going on.

"It was a routine opening," laughed Page. "The kids all had new clothes, sported new haircuts and had enough paper to last them for the rest of the year."

He emphasized the fact that even though Plan 45-15 is experimental, it is educationally sound and financially desirable. With Gov. Richard Ogilvie signing the measure into law at West View Junior High Monday, the plan became legally possible.

"I think this plan has a real future for educational systems," said Elizabeth King, physical education teacher. "I think the kids will respond. Kids always are flexible — it is the parents who sometimes are not. However if the parents will support the plan for year-round school, we can make a go of it, I'm sure."

Edward Levandowski, typing teacher at West View, said he thought year-round school would be good for him. "For the first time I don't have to worry about finding a summer job. Economically, it is the biggest thing yet to happen for teachers," he said.

"We're just not ready for it," said Mrs. Jack Hewitt of 409 Montrose Dr. who brought her seventh grade daughter, Paula, to school. "My youngest son in first grade is excited about starting school but Paula isn't happy because she had so little vacation," her mother aid.

"It has been quite a shock to us," said Mrs. Lenore Gardner, who recently moved with her husband and four children from the north side of Chicago to Romeoville.

"We think it's a great plan," said Mrs. Gardner. "I think such a plan to use school facilities all year-round is long overdue. we love sports and winter vacations so we'll look forward to those.

"We sure had to move fast," added Mrs. Gardner," in order to get shot records and to shop for school."

"I hate it," insisted one tanned, chubby little boy. "Oh man, it's not so bad," consoled another. "Just think, we're never going to have time to get bored again!"

Ogilvie Signs Bill, Dedicates Union-76 Refinery Monday

SOUTHWEST Governor Richard B. Ogilvie spent most of the afternoon in Lockport and Romeoville Monday, June 29, and he will surely remember the area as "a place in the sun." It was a very hot day.

He was in the area for the dedication of the $200 million refinery of the Union Oil Company of California, and the ceremonial signing into law of an education bill for year-round schools, held at West View Junior High School.

Ogilvie said the Union Oil dedication was more than the official launching of a magnificent new industrial facility which will meet the fuel needs of citizens throughout the Midwest. He said the people here in the heartland of the Midwest view the refinery as a $200 million monument to the confidence of American business and industry in the future of Illinois.

He noted that Union Oil not only renewed its long association with Illinois but also renewed its commitment to responsible corporate citizenship. He added that with a vast army of sophisticated and expensive equipment, the "simple but powerful fact that the future for all of us -- citizen and corporation alike -- must unfold within the context of the environment in which we live."

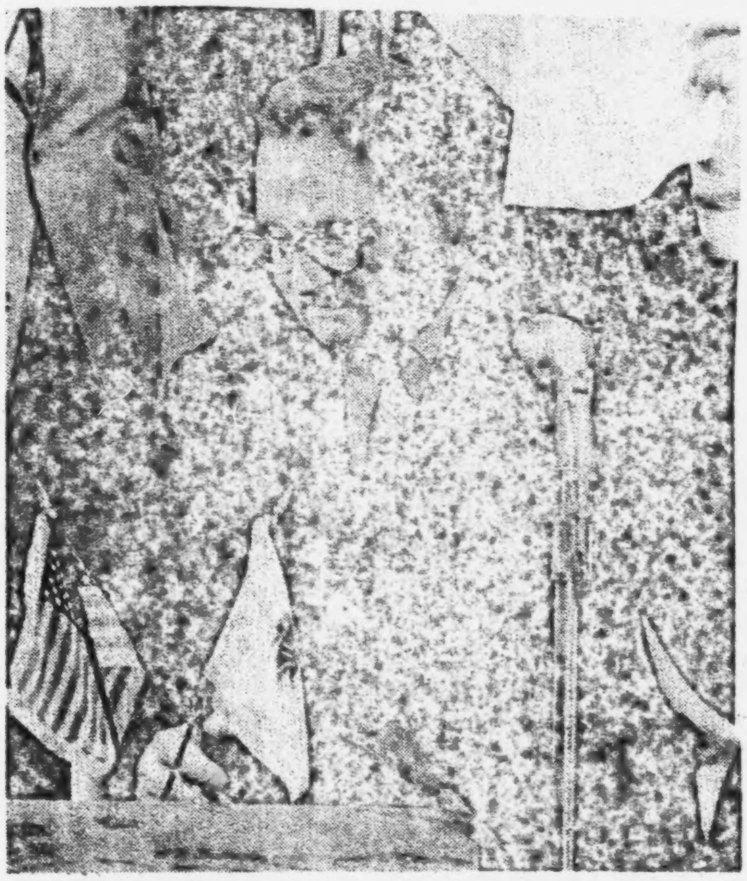
Fred L. Hartley, president of Union Oil, also spoke about our environment. He said the refinery represents financially the largest single capital investment ever made by Union Oil; technologically, it represents the most advanced refining systems and techniques known today; and socially, it represents recognition of the necessity of protecting the environment while producing the energy required for our continued growth and self-fulfillment. He added that 37 million of the total cost of the project was for expenditures directly related to air and water conservation.

Following the Union dedication, the governor proceeded to West View Junior High School, to officially open the school's innovative 45-15 plan. On his way, he passed pickets standing along Romeoville Road with signs proclaiming, "Pollution -- Gone Today, Back Tomorrow," and other slogans. When the governor arrived at West View, he mentioned the sign-bearers and said he signed into law that morning the "toughest, most far-reaching pollution legislation in the state," in the presence of the attorney general from nearly every one of the fifty states.

The governor, who was introduced by Ray Page, Illinois Superintendent of Public Instruction, congratulated the Valley View School District on their plan, and said the state would help in every way it could for the plan's success and added that perhaps it would become the solution for Chicago's troubled schools. A small old fashioned desk, dating back to the one-room school era, was provided for the governor to sit in and sign the bill into law.

(Continued on Page 3)

He looked at it and said it had been more years than he cared to remember since he'd seen one. Other dignitaries on the platform were John O'Hara, mayor of Romeoville; Robert Shanks, president of the village of Bolingbrook; Roy Hassert, chairman of the Will County Board of Supervisors; William J. Crowley, president of the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce; Boyd R. Bucher, Superintendent of the Will County Educational Service Region, and the District 96 school board members and administration.



IT'S OFFICIAL -- Gov. Richard Ogilvie signs into law a bill which will allow Illinois schools to hold class year-round. Valley View School District 96 starts school today on the new 45-15 plan. (GRAPHIC Photo.)

Southwest
Graphics
Jul 1, 1970
pge. 1

Joliet Herald News
July 7, 1970

Students are busy, cool at Valley View

By DOROTHY CRYDER
Herald-News Writer

ROMEOVILLE — The door opened on a roar of happy children's voices and the clank of dishes. Lunch time was in full swing last Friday at West View Junior High School as the six schools in the Valley View District completed their first week of year-round school.

Air-conditioning certainly has placed school status on a higher plane, I thought, as youngsters responded to my questions about the first week of school. There were some audible groans but by and large the kids opted for keeping busy and cool.

"I thought I'd hate it," said Bobby Williams, a seventh grader and avid little leaguer. "I thought I wouldn't have much time to practice my game but as hot as it's been, I couldn't have practiced anyway. By the time I get out of school and have supper, it's cool enough to play."

"I like going to school in the summer and it's great to be inside where it's cool," said Roberta Manthanson, an eighth grader at West View. "The only problem we have is vacation. My daddy gets the next two weeks off and we're going away for a week. I hate to miss because we're studying the Constitution and you can't afford to get very far behind on that."

BUSES ROLL FOR YEAR-ROUND SCHOOL
Debbie Clark and Sharon Bigham,
West View Students

July 7, 1970

"It's really cool and I mean that literally," laughed Linda McMillen, also in eighth grade at West View.

"I like keeping busy and I used to get so bored before summer ended."

The enthusiasm of the students was reflected by the building principals.

"It has been so quiet, it scares me," said Ronald Fagan, principal at North View School on Briarcliff Road in Bolingbrook. "We have kids in sixth grade calling to ask if they can come and help out with kindergarten."

This is the first year that kindergarten has been taught in the district. Kindergarten through fifth is taught at Brook View.

"You also have to bear in mind that we only have one-fourth of our student body here at this time," added Fagan.

"I questioned the teachers at a staff meeting about parents' reactions, and so far, to the teachers knowledge, we have had no complaints," said David Pauley, principal at Valley View School on Naperville Road in Romeoville.

"If the beginning of year-round school is any indication of things to come, then we can't help but succeed because it has gone far better than our expectations," noted Pauley.

Valley View has about 1,000 students in first through sixth with 250 attending on the first tract.

"We have only had one complaint," said Mrs. Lillie Eneix, principal at Ridge View, Eaton Avenue in Romeoville, which houses kindergarten through fourth grades.

Mrs. Eneix said the complaint was from a family that moved in on Saturday before school started and knew nothing about year-round school.

The neighborhood concept has been followed in Plan 45-15 for year-round school so that all children from each neighborhood will be attending at the same time.

"When this family found out that the children in their neighborhood were starting school on Monday, they were upset because they had vacation scheduled and it meant their children would miss the first two weeks of school. This is just something we will have to work out," noted Mrs. Eneix.

"I feel it is going well," said Verne Shelley, principal at Park View, "especially when you consider that some of the students finished school on June 8 and have only had three weeks vacation."

Park View School on Dalhart Avenue in Romeoville houses kindergarten through sixth grades.

"The students' attitude is just great — I would say at least 90 per cent of them are happy with the program. Already they are remembering that they go nine weeks and have three weeks off. I think they like the fact that they get four vacations a year," said Shelley.

"It really has been a quiet first week of school," observed Frank Kolinski, principal at West View Junior High. "Things will perk up of course when we have three groups in school on Aug. 11."

Plan 45-15, which now is in effect in the Valley View School District, is a scheduling system which provides full-time use of the facilities or the equivalent of two added 30-classroom buildings.

The pupil population is divided into four equal groups with each of the four groups attending 45 class days and then having 15 class days of vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each of the groups, at any one time only three of the groups will be attending on any one class day.

The four groups always stay in the same order of rotation. In a calendar year each group will attend classes 180 days, four sessions of 45 days per session. Group A began attending classes June 30.

"Our custodial staff deserves considerable praise for doing in three weeks what they ordinarily take the full summer to accomplish," said Kolinski.

He added that the rooms were ready, grounds were ready, books and assignments were ready for the beginning of school.

He said that many of the parents' reaction were, "Thank God, the kids now have something to do for the summer."

Kolinski feels sure that once plan 45-15 has been proven, industry will cooperate.

"I would think they would be happy not to shut down for two

(Continued on Page Two)

July 7, 1970

Students are busy, cool at Valley View

(Continued from Page One)

weeks but keep going by staggering vacations," he said.

Brook View School on Gary Drive in Bolingbrook, which houses kindergarten through fourth grades, also had a quiet opening according to Principal William Dikeman.

He said parents had cooperated to help first graders and kindergarten children make the adjustment to school.

"The children seemed anxious to begin and voted in favor of staying in an air-conditioned building and playing games rather than going out on the playground during the very hot days."

He said the only complaint he had heard has been from a worried mother who was afraid her child might not be able to study at home since their house was not air-conditioned.

"I assured her that the teachers and I are here until 3:30 p.m. each day and we would be happy to have any of the children stay and do home work here in the building," Dikeman explained.

"We will know exactly how many children are going to school in the first tract when we take enrollment on the sixth day of school," said Patrick Page, research director for the district.

He said the district now has established an enrollment center at West View Junior High, 135th Street (Romeoville Road) and Belmont Drive, where new people in the district can enroll all their children in one step.

The school board has abolished rental on textbooks and workbooks in order to simplify school entry. The only cost to a family is the optional school lunch, towel fee and mid-morning milk.

"Our two years of research and study to perfect Plan 45-15 seem to be paying off," said Page. It is working better than we ever dreamed. By next week, I might even uncross my fingers!"

Southwest Graphic
July 8, 1970

45-15 plan initiated

'I don't forget as much'

School Dist. 96 has growing pains.

Just 17 years ago, 89 elementary and junior high students occupied five one-room schools. Today, there are over 7,000 students in six buildings — crowded buildings at that.

The classrooms were already crowded; 45 students for one teacher was not a rarety. Additional classrooms would mean a tax referendum, something local homeowners surely would not favor, and double shifts were not received warmly either.

Meanwhile, six buildings sat idle for three summer months. The taxpayers were getting only nine months use of their dollar. The audio-visual equipment, books, air conditioners, even the gymnasium was not being used to taxpayers' benefit.

The solution seemed logical; it is remarkable no one thought of it before. By using the schools year-round for a 180-day academic year, more students could be accomodated. (See box for explanation of the 45-15 plan.)

The first group of students, track A, started school Tuesday and will not get their first break until Sept. 1. All district schools are air-conditioned eliminating heat problems.

Fewer problems plague 45-15 plans than one might expect.

At North View Elementary School, Principal Ronald C. Fagan has experienced little negative feedback on the program. Most Bolingbrook families, he says, have been able to adjust their vacation schedules to conform with the four, three-week seasonal school breaks. Many parents have found the plan enjoyable because, as with track A, they can vacation in September when highways and parks are less crowded and they can enjoy lower, out-of-season rates.

"More teachers are wanting to get in on the program that out," he says. "I lost only two teachers last year among 44 staff members and none because of 45-15. And this last week, I've had many inquiries from teachers wanting positions in the system.

"The main problem for the 45-15 plan is the teachers. They are the ones who are going to make it work — they have to adapt to the changes."

Mrs. Charlene Meyer, a second-grade teacher at North View, is happy with the program. "Perhaps they (the students) have had enough vacation," she says.

(Continued on Page 3)

45-15 at North View

(Continued from Page 2)

"They're fairly well settled, they're not jumpy, and they're ready to work.

"We often spend a month in the fall re-teaching the students, but they seem to be doing well so far. Besides, it's comfortable in the classroom."

For the male teachers, like fourth-grade science teacher Jim McNamara, there are economic benefits. "It is financially good," he says, "especially for the male supporting a family. We have the option of teaching year-round, which means approximately one-third more salary.

"We have a positive indication that 45-15 is good, but the main thing is, 'Is it good for the kids?' The alternatives are double shifts and over-crowded classrooms. This is not educationally good. We can accommodate one-fourth more students in the same facilities and save the taxpayers money."

McNamara and other teachers doubt the plan will hinder their continuing education, because most of their courses are at night. "People in my graduate classes are interested in the 45-15 plan," McNamara says. "They want to know the good and bad effects on students and teachers. But the best way to find out is to get into the system."

Most candid student remarks about the plan and attending school during the summer were favorable. Kevin Owens, 7, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Owens, is especially happy to get back to school. "I'm bored being at home," he says. "I want to go to school because I like studying arithmetic, eating in the gym and recess. Three of my friends go to school now. I even like going to school in the summer."

Fellow second-grader Brian Courtney, 6, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Courtney, concurs. "My friend Johnny goes to school now. It's fun. I had long enough vacation and was ready to come back to school. 'Sides, I missed going out to recess. I miss going swimming, but Mom doesn't have a car so we couldn't go anyway. It's easier to study in the summer, but I don't know why. Mom likes 45-15 too because she can do more errands."

Loucia Papadopoulos, 6, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Papadopoulos, is not quite ready to come back to school. "Mom doesn't like it because we can't go to the beach as much. And I like to swim every day. I missed some of my friends, so I was kind of ready to come back because I like school."

Older North View students have more to say about the new plan. Lyneen Michalak, 9, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Michalak, says her mother was ready for her to go back to school. "All of my friends are in school at the same time. We don't have such long vacations, so we don't forget as much. In September, we're going on a vacation to Tennessee and we have a long vacation in December, so that will be fun."

Another fifth-grader, Ken Taylor, 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Taylor, also believes he remembered more over the short vacation. "The only thing I don't like is walking home in the heat. But I'd rather walk home in in the heat than in the snow. We can play outside during the summer pretty good, and you can't in the winter sometimes."

Mitchell Wilke, 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Wilke is not quite ready to go back to school, but accepts the plan as valuable. "The vacation wasn't quite long enough. Some friends make fun of us because they don't go to school until September. But then we'll get to make fun of them in September because we'll be on vacation.

"I can learn more because of the 45-15 plan. It's easier to remember and study because there won't be so much noise — not everyone will be in school at the same time.

"Other schools should do this. The population is getting so big the schools are over-crowded. And other schools are going to have to do it pretty soon."

Southwest Graphic
July 8, 1970

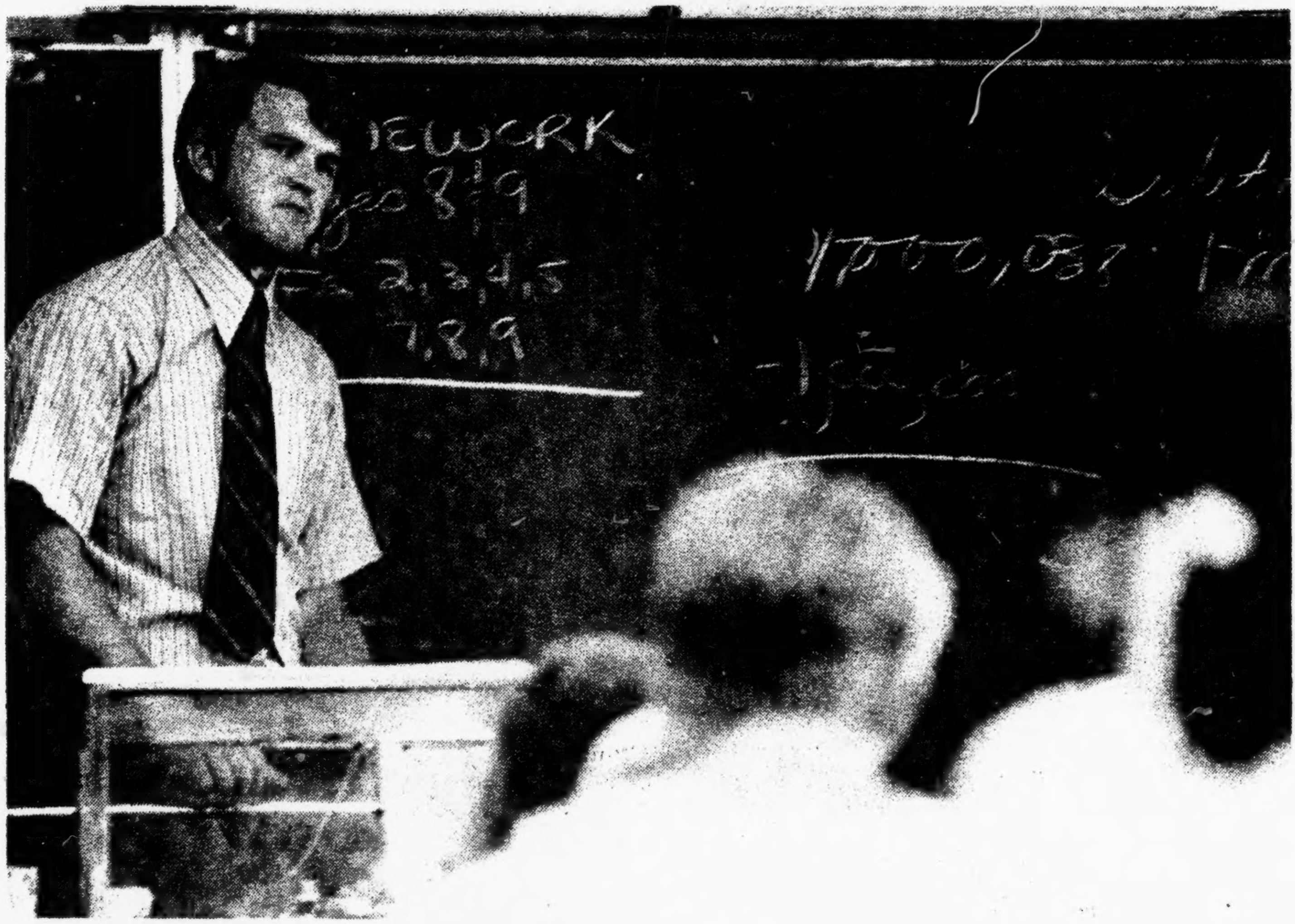
Many pupils like Kevin Owens are eager to get back to school after only a few weeks vacation.

Briefly, the Valley View Dist. 96 45-15 plan is an experimental program which breaks elementary and junior high school students into four groups or tracks with children of one family on the same track. Each track attends school for 45 class days, then has a 15-day vacation. At any given time during the year, three tracks are in school while one is on vacation. School buildings are used continuously throughout the calendar year, with the exception of legal holidays. Christmas and Easter vacations and a break in early July to adjust the program. The plan benefits taxpayers by using physical plants and equipment year-round and by saving construction costs by accomodating 25 per cent more students.

Wednesday, July 8, 1970 SOUTHWEST GRAPHIC Page 3

"Perhaps they have had enough vacation," says North View second grade teacher Mrs. Charlene Meyer, reflecting her early reactions to the 45-15 plan. When her students take a three-week vacation in September, she and her husband will travel to Europe. "What a wonderful time to go someplace." (GRAPHIC Photo)

Science teacher Jim McNamara, below left, feels the main value of the 45-15 plan is the educational impact it has on students.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LEFT: Northview Principal Ronald C. Fagan gives kindergarten students an Independence Day lesson. Before this year, District 96 had no kindergarten classes because of the crowded buildings.

Joliet Herald News
July 9, 1970
Page 1

24 uncooled Park View classrooms irk mothers

7-9-70

By DOROTHY CRYDER
Herald-News Writer

ROMEOVILLE — "Valley View Schools are not so cool," protested a group of mothers Wednesday at Park View School.

The mothers rapped the school administration for beginning Plan 45-15 year-round school before 24 rooms at Park View School were air-conditioned.

The 31 classrooms in the new addition of the school are air-conditioned.

"The newspapers have played up the fact that year-round school is a first here in Romeoville," said Mrs. Joyce Ciccarelli. "They say the kids are studying in cool comfort and they are not — at least my child is not and I want to know why," she said.

"Is this some plan you have of passing the proposed bond referendum by putting air-conditioning of Park View School on the ballot along with the new buildings and a tax rate increase?" she asked.

She said she would rather contribute $10 outright toward air-conditioning than to have $10 added to her taxes.

"How come Valley View School was air-conditioned last summer and Park View was not?" asked Mrs. Joan Krauz.

She added that she had attended several coffee sessions held by the district administrators to inform parents of Plan 45-15.

"At each of those meetings you stated that all schools would be air-conditioned before year-round school began," she told the administrators.

"We have six schools and 180 classrooms in the district," explained Supt. Kenneth Hermansen. "Of these 180 classrooms, 24 are not air-conditioned and you have every right to ask why," he said.

He said that in the two years of planning for year-round school, the district's aim was to air-condition all rooms.

He explained that the Valley View District had qualified for $150,000 federal money through a law which grants impacted aid to districts for federal employes living there.

"The name of the game is money," said Hermansen and explained that this year's appropriation bill had not been signed by the president.

James Bingle, president of the board of education, said he had gone to Washington with two of the administrators to try and secure the funds but they had been unsuccessful.

Hermansen said they had tried to obtain the necessary $80,000 for the air-conditioning from 34 different foundations.

"We didn't dream up a bond referendum just to air-condition these 24 rooms," said Bingle. "We added the air-conditioning

(Continued on Page Five)

24 Park View rooms not air-conditioned

(Continued from Page One)

to the referendum after every other source of revenue had been explored.

"We must have the additional buildings we are proposing in the referendum or we will be on double shifts with year-round school within the next two years."

Also included in the referendum to be held on Aug. 15 are a 15-room addition to Brook View School in Bolingbrook, a 15-room addition at Ridge View School in Romeoville and a 30-room school to be built on land donated by Hoffman Rosner Builders in the new Indian Oaks subdivision in Bolingbrook.

"We expect 3,000 to 5,000 new students within the next five years," Hermansen said.

"How much tax can one community be expected to bear?" asked Mrs. Ciccarelli.

"This is exactly why members of our board are meeting with the Naperville School Board and Naperville City Council," said Bingle.

He explained that Levitt Builders is planning a large subdivision on the outskirts of Naperville and a part of the subdivision lies within the school boundaries of Valley View District. "This would mean an addition of about 1,200 students," Bingle said.

"We are trying to draw up some kind of policy with Naperville which we also can take to the Bolingbrook and Romeoville Village Boards to force the developers to pay for the tax lag for the first two years."

He pointed out that it is not until the second year that any tax money is forthcoming from new developments. Presently this additional tax burden is being carried by the established communities.

The mothers present at the meeting assured the administrators that they had nothing against year-round school.

"We think it's a great plan," they said.

They asked if it would be possible to rent air-conditioners for the 24 classrooms.

Hermansen replied that he could not see paying $30,000 for rental when $80,000 would do the complete job.

Verne Shelley, principal at Park View, explained that since only one-fourth of the students are now attending school under the year-round plan, youngsters were moved into the air-conditioned part during the very hot weather last week.

"The only critical time we will have is from Aug. 11 when three groups are attending until Sept 1. Then the first group finishes 45 days of school and goes home for 15 days. Only three groups will be attending school at any one time.

"During that period if we have over 90-degree days, we will have to treat them as we do below zero weather or snow days and give the youngsters in those 24 rooms a day off, Shelley said.

"How can we be sure that childrens' lunches won't spoil during this hot weather?" asked one mother.

Shelley said most of the children ate in the cafeteria but he would work out something so that lunches brought from home could be placed on shelves in the cafeteria where it is cool.

"If you can't afford to rent air-conditioners at this time, could you not afford about $300 to purchase window fans for the 24 classrooms?" inquired the mothers.

"That we can do," replied Hermansen and assured them he would meet that afternoon with Paul Swinford, business manager, to prepare a purchase order.

"There is one great thing about our school administrators," remarked one mother to another as they trooped out of the building. "They treat us like people and take the time to listen."

July 9, 1970

Joliet Herald News
July 14, 1970

Valley View second phase is next week

ROMEOVILLE — Tract B, the second group of students on Valley View District Plan 45-15 year-round school, will begin school Tuesday July 21.

Tract A which includes about 1,600 students, began school June 30.

When tract C starts attending classes Aug. 11, there will be a 100 per cent utilization of the 180 classrooms, said John Lukancic assistant superintendent.

On Aug. 31, tract A finishes 45 days of school and will go home for 15 days of vacation. On Sept. 1, tract D moves into the empty classrooms of tract A. Come Sept. 22, tract B concludes its 45 days and leaves for 15 days vacation.

And so the cycle goes for 12 months of the year. Each group attends school 45 days and goes home for 15 days of vacation.

By staggering the starting date of each of the groups, at any one time, only three of the groups will be attending on any one class day.

Lukancic said he had toured all six schools in the district talking to teachers, parents and children.

"It has gone smoother than we ever dreamed," he said. "The teachers are very enthusiastic about the program because only a fourth of the students are now attending and the teachers have been able to accomplish much more than they ever dreamed possible.

Lukancic said there were mixed reactions from the parents and the youngsters.

He said they were keeping a close account of daily weather conditions, on attendance and behavior patterns.

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7-15-70

MOTHERS DEMAND AIR CONDITIONING
SETTLE FOR FANS

Six irrate mothers who came to Park View School to demand air conditioning for all classrooms at the school, left with the promise that fans will be installed in those rooms within a week.

The women, all of whom had children attending that school, had expected to be there twenty or thirty strong, but most of their group failed to show up. They were protesting the fact that 24 of the classrooms at Park View did not have air conditioning, and that some of the children attending these classrooms had become ill.

Superintendent Kenneth Hermansen, assistant superintendent John Lucancic, Park View Principal Vern Shelley and School Board President Jim Bingle met with the women in a classroom to discuss their grievences.

Hermansen and Bingle explained that they had expected to have all of the rooms air conditioned when the 45-15 Plan started. However, the government funds they had been counting on for this purpose had been cut back. Bingle and two administrators had recently travelled to Washington to try to secure this money, but their efforts had proved to be futile. The eighty thousand dollars to air condition the 24 classrooms was just not available at this time.

The Park View Principal explained that when the comfortable the children were and would be taken to one of the air conditioned rooms. This will be possible till August 11, when the third track starts school, and all the rooms will be occupied.

One of the mothers noted that one teacher had provided a fan in one of the rooms, and that this had made the heat more tolerable. Hermansen said that the school would purchase fans to use in these rooms.

The mothers were apparently satisfied with the answers they received to their questions, and the agreement to place fans in the rooms.

During the 90 minutes session it was pointed out to the mothers that they were in an un-air condition room, that the temperature was at 84, and that none of them felt uncomfortable.

45-15 blamed for village hall problem

ROMEOVILLE — Plan 45-15 year-round school has brought more children with additional difficulties to the village, board members said at a meeting Monday night

"The presence of children will now be constant instead of seasonal," said Trustee Harry Betzel and added that the candy machine and water fountain in the hall at the village are causing too much traffic.

He said that because of youngsters "horsing around" the water fountain, it almost is necessary to have a permanent monitoring of the hall by one of the office girls.

The board voted to have a bubbler placed on a fountain to be installed by the fire department so the children could get a cold drink without coming inside the village hall.

"If this does not work, we will have to take the fountain out of the hall," the board decided.

In other business, Trustee Jerry Capps complained that Alexander Construction Co. was building from 11 to 15 identical houses within the same block.

"I remember seeing a statement from them in the minutes saying that they would not build more than six or seven houses of the same kind within any one block," said Capps and added that this also had been the recommendation of the village planner, Harland Barthclomew and Associates of Chicago.

The board voted to have the village clerk check the minutes, pull out the statement and send it to Alexander Construction asking that the cofpany abide by it.

"I'm sure we did make such a statement," said Richard J. McKool, executive vice president of Alexander Construction Co., "and we stand behind it."

"We are building three different kinds of houses in that area, a 700 series, a 706 series and an 8300 series. Each one of the three series has four different exterior designs, he said.

"In other words we are building three different kinds of houses with 16 different combinations of elevation and exterior designs.

"I will be happy to show anyone who is interested that we are not building more than six identical houses in any block," he said.

In another matter, Trustee John Veeninga announced that the annual appropriations ordinance was ready for publication. The total appropriations ordinance is for $3,529,545, of which $797,210 will be raised by taxation and $2,555,335 through services.

In final actions, the board:

—Asked the village clerk to revoke the license to Christy Enterprise for the awning on the village hall. The board said the company had not maintained proper service on the awning.

—Asked that the city planner draw up recommendations for usage of the wooded property located next to Lake Shirley which has been purchased by the village.

—Directed the police and fire board to make a study on whether civil service would benefit the village and present a report at the first board meeting in October.

—Heard a report from the buildings and grounds committee that the judges of the magistrate's division of the Circuit Court which meets at Romeoville Recreation Center, had asked that a witness chair, drapes for the windows and more chairs for the courtroom be installed.

—Asked O'Hara to appoint a committee to study the feasibility of hiring a city manager for the village. O'Hara appointed Trustees Capps, Veeninga and Leonard Kolpacki.

The Beacon July 22, 1970 pg. 3

BEACONRIDGE STUDENTS TO BE BUSSED TO NORTH VIEW

In a switch of policy the Board of Education of School District #96 decided to bus all of the Beaconridge students attending North View School. This busing, for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will continue until sidewalks are completed from the subdivision to Briarcliff Road. The kindergarten through 2nd graders will continue to be bussed because of the distance. The Beaconridge students are all on track B of the 45-15 Plan and started school yesterday.

Bolingbrook mayor Robert Schanks appeared at a meeting of the school transportation committee, held last Monday, and asked the board to reconsider its earlier decision to have no bus transportation for the 3rd through 5th graders of Beaconridge. He pointed out that as soon as sidewalk construction starts the area along the east side of Rte 53 will be torn up and there will be no place for the students to walk. The board also acknowledged that many of the residents of the subdivision had called or corresponded with the school authorities on transportation. All members of the board were present except George Hassert. A number of administrators as well as Earl Thompson, transportation manager, were also at the meeting.

Board members pointed out that the transportation of the older students will only continue until the sidewalk is completed.

The sidewalk in question will be a part of the program approved Saturday by the voters of Bolingbrook in a half-million dollar road improvement and side walk bond referendum.

The Board of Education and the Village of Bolingbrook have been attempting to have the builder, Kaufman and Broad, put a sidewalk from their subdivision to Briarcliff road ever since the Beaconridge complex was built. Last year, when K & B asked the village to annex a new parcel of land, Schanks and the village board placed two stipulations before the annexation could be accomplished. One of them was that the builder provide the long requested sidewalk. This stipulation was dropped when the builder informed the village board that the people of Beaconridge did not want such a sidewalk.

Joliet Herald News
Aug. 4, 1970

Second group begins school on 45-15 plan

ROMEOVILLE — The second group of students have begun their school year in the summer under Plan 45-15 in the Valley View School district.

The first day of classes for Group B was July 21 and everything went smoothly, according to Patrick Page, research director for the district.

The only unusual aspect, other than going to school in July, was the amount of children wanting the hot lunch at noon. The number was higher than officials had anticipated for a July day.

Group C, the third group in the 45-15 plan, will start school Aug. 11. Ten days before they are to begin, the parents of Group C children will receive information from the principal of the school their child will attend.

The letter informs the parent about school hours, bus schedules and other details pertaining to the beginning of the school year.

Page said all children attending school for the first time must have their birth certificate, a health examination on the form prescribed by the state and a dental examination.

Fifth grade students must also have a health examination as prescribed by the state.

The last group, Group D, will start school Sept. 1 at which time Group A will begin its first 15-day vacation.

The 45-15 plan enables the six schools in the district to operate all year at capacity with only ¾ of the school age children in school at one time.

The Beacon
8-5-70

45-15 IN FULL SWING

Track "B" has started school in District 96, and on August 11th Track "C" will be in school and the 45-15 Plan will be in full swing.

So far everything has been running fairly well with this unique concept according to research director J. Patrick Page. A few mix ups have happened, but this is only to be expected in this new and untired program, even though two years of planning have preceeded its inception.

On the whole the children like 45-15 and have accomodated to it very well. Some parents still have their doubts and are taking a "Wait and see" attitude.

Page said all chilren attending school for the first time must have their birth certificate, a health examination on the form prescribed by the state, and a dental examination.

Fifth grade students must also have a health examination as prescribed by the state.

Parents of children in Group "C" will soon get letters informing them what school their child will attend, the school hours, bus schedules and other vital information.

The Beacon
8-5-70

HELP WITH 45-15 BIBLE SCHOOL

The Rev. and Mrs. Bill Bernstein will be helping the Bolingbrook Community Bible Church with their 45-15 Bible School Aug. 10 - 14. They will also be celebrating their first wedding anniversary. Both were in Bolingbrook for Vacation Bible School last year while supposedly honeymooning.

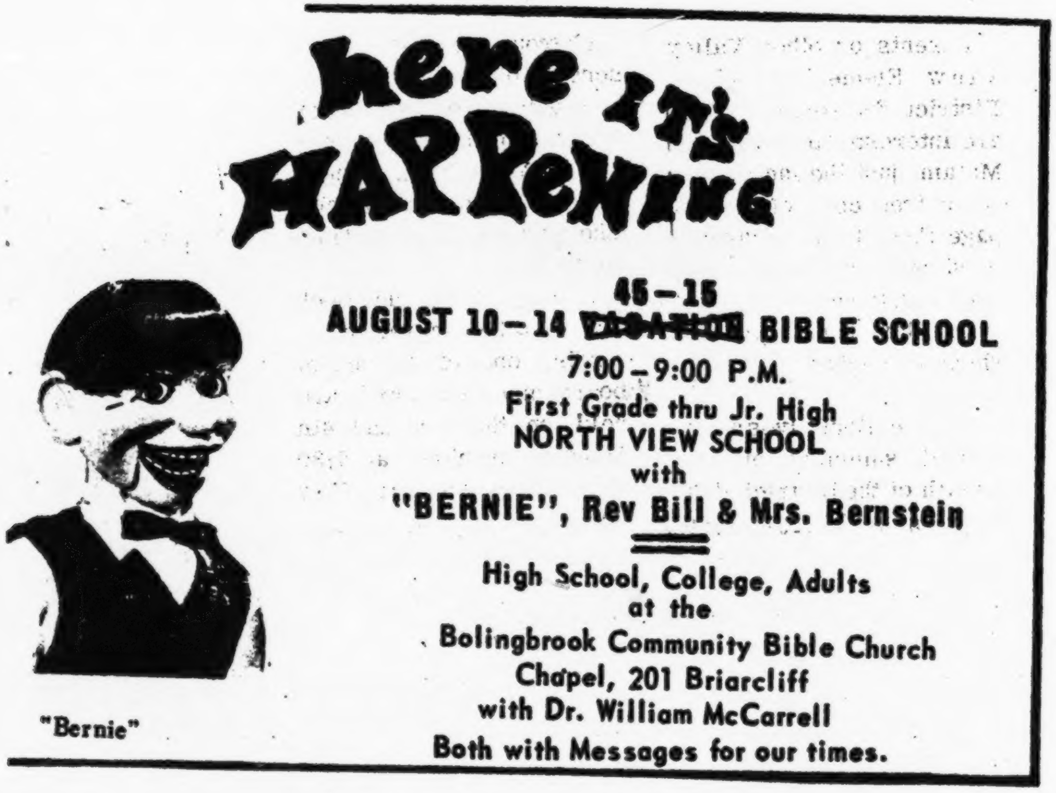
The Bernsteins are missionaires, supported in part by the Bible Church in Southern Florida.

"Pastor Bill" is a ventriloquist and magician. He will be assisted at the meeting by his able "dummy" assistant, Bernie.

The meetings, Aug. 10 - 14, will be for all children through Jr. High School and will be held in the evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. at North View School. At the same time, teenagers and adults will be meeting in the Bible Church's air conditioned chapel at 201 Briarcliff Rd. The leader will be Dr. William McCarrel, former pastor for 45 years at Cicero Bible Church.

COUNTY CLERK SEEKS OPINION

The Beacon
8-5-70



here IT's HAPPeNING

45–15
AUGUST 10–14 ~~VACATION~~ BIBLE SCHOOL
7:00–9:00 P.M.
First Grade thru Jr. High
NORTH VIEW SCHOOL
with
"BERNIE", Rev Bill & Mrs. Bernstein

High School, College, Adults
at the
Bolingbrook Community Bible Church
Chapel, 201 Briarcliff
with Dr. William McCarrell
Both with Messages for our times.

"Bernie"

The Beacon
8-5-70

SCHOOL FACT BOOK AVAILABLE

Parents or other Valley View Elementary School District #96 residents who are interested in "the facts, Ma'am, just the facts" may get a free copy of an 18-page Fact Book for Parents by stopping at the Research and Development Office at Park View School, near the shopping center in Romeoville.

The Fact Book gives a historical summary of the growth of the District, description of the buildings, background of year-round school plans in general, and details of the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan. There are 1500 copies available. The price to non-residents is $2.50.

A copy of the Fact Book may also be secured by attending one of the school board meetings which are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings at 7:30 in the library at Park View School.

Wednesday, August 5, 1970 THE SOUTHWEST GRAPHIC Page 11

Brook View open house

SOUTHWEST — Brook View School will have an open house on Friday, August 7, from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Classrooms and bulletin boards will show teaching materials and examples of class work by pupils. All the Brook View teachers in Groups A and B will be present to meet parents and other visitors and to discuss all phases of the academic program.

Brook View School has 16 classrooms and is identical in size and floor plan with Ridge View School in Hampton Park. Brook View School was finished in February of 1969. One of the purposes of the referendum on Saturday, August 15th is to provide for a 15 room addition to Brook View School.

District representatives will be present to answer any questions about the upcoming referendum.

Brook View has a capacity of 480 primary and intermediate pupils. This year in grades kindergarten through grade 4, there are 276 pupils in Group A and Group B combined. Mr. William Dikeman is principal. Brook View School is on Gary Drive, just off Pinecrest Drive, in Bolingbrook.

Joliet Herald News
8-4-70

Valley View parents can get fact book

ROMEOVILLE — Fact books are now available for residents of Valley View Elementary School District.

The 18-page Fact Book For Parents gives a summary of district growth, building facilities general background of year-round school plans and details of the 45-15 continuous school year plan.

They can be obtained at the research and development office at Park View School in Romeoville or by attending a school board meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the second or fourth Monday of the month at Park View.

Joliet Herald News
8-11-70
page 1

Joliet, Illinois, Tuesday, August 11, 1970

School election set for Saturday

BOLINGBROOK — Fact booklets for parents and information on Saturday's special school election were presented to parents attending an open house at Brook View School Friday evening.

Building principal William Dikeman said 250 parents attended the open house.

Signs appealing to parents to vote yes on all three propositions were evident throughout the school.

"No foolin' we need more rooms, our classes are as large as before 45-15 (plan)" read one such sign.

The three propositions for Saturday's election are approval to sell $345,000 in bonds for school building construction; approval to accept a $1.7 million interest-free loan from the Illinois School Building Commission; and authorization of a 10 cent increase in the building fund.

The interest-free loan is available to the Valley View School District only if the bonding power contained in proposition I is utilized.

If the propositions are passed a new school will be constructed in the Indian Oaks area and 15 rooms will be added to Ridge View and Brook View schools. The additions will double the size of the schools.

The money will also be used to air-condition a section of Park View School in Romeoville.

Hoffman-Rosner, a developer, has offered to donate an improved school site in Indian Oaks near Schmidt Road with a value of $120,000 plus $200,000 for the construction of a school.

Polling places will be open from noon until 7 p.m. Saturday at North View School for residents north of Interstate 55 and Park View school for residents south of the interstate.

Information is available at Park View School and residents are asked to call or write to the district offices there if they have questions on the referendum.

Joliet Herald News
Northern Area Green Sheet
8-11-1970
Page 1

Year-round school plan in full swing

ROMEOVILLE — Three tracts are in operation at schools in the Valley View District today.

Tract C students started classes this week and brought schools in the district to capacity operation.

The tracts are part of Plan 45-15 in the district schools. The plan is designed to operate the schools all year and to utilize the buildings throughout the year.

This is the first year of operation for the plan which is under observation by educators throughout the nation.

Plan 45-15 divides students in the district into four tracts which attend school on a rotating basis for 45 days and then go on vacation for 15 days.

Plan 45-15 was designed to cope with the overcrowded conditions in the district.

A special election is being held Saturday calling for approval to sell bonds of $845,000 for building construction and to accept an interest free loan of $1.7 million.

If this referendum is passed it would enable the district to build a school in Indian Oaks subdivision and to add rooms to two existing schools.

"Plan 45-15 does not end the district's problems," said research director Patrick Page. "If the referndum is not passed Saturday the district will have to consider the plan on a half-day basis."

"We have already thought about 45-15 on half-days," Page continued "If no additional space is available for classes within the next year or so some grade levels or buildings may have to start half-days. But that is if the referendum fails."

Page explained the area has an unusually high growth rate. Since Kindergarten has become required by the state and since the influx of new residents the district's classrooms are more than filled again.

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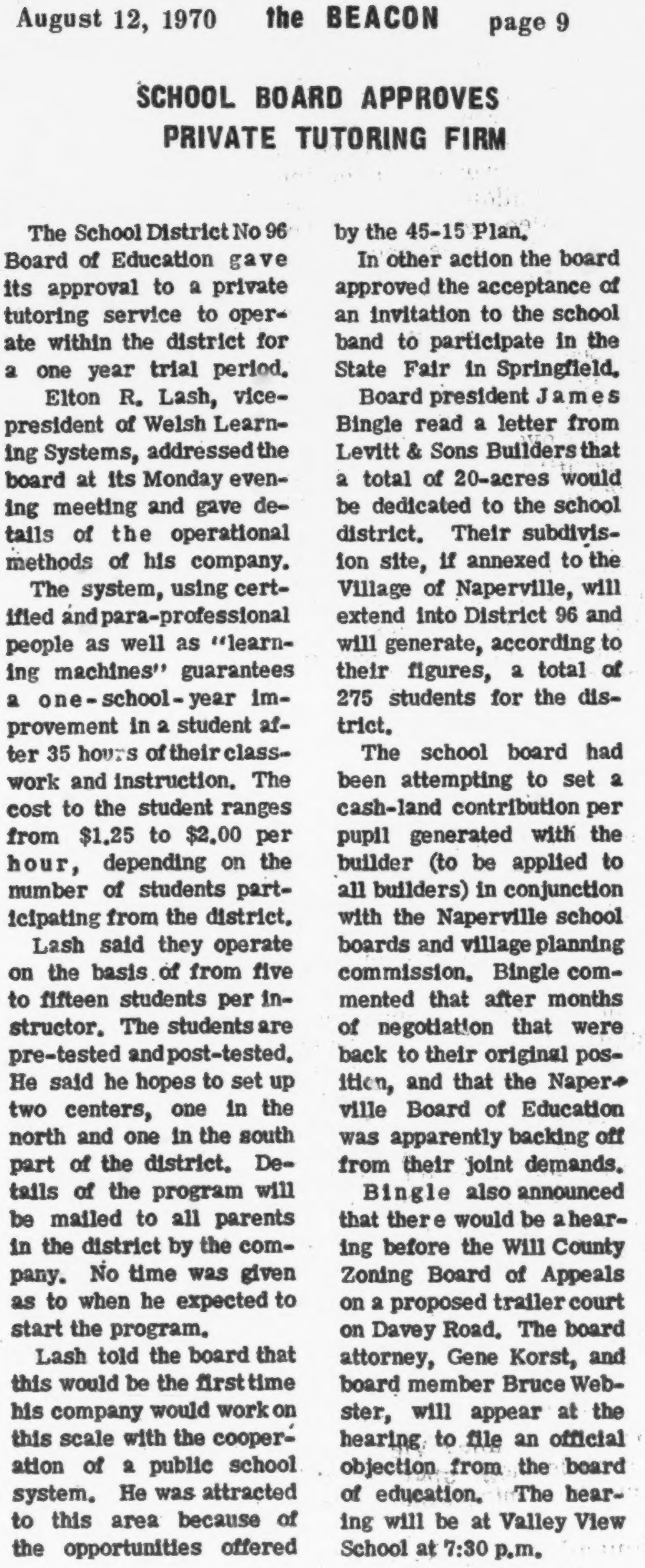
The Beacon - August 12, 1970



August 12, 1970 **the BEACON** page 9

SCHOOL BOARD APPROVES PRIVATE TUTORING FIRM

The School District No 96 Board of Education gave its approval to a private tutoring service to operate within the district for a one year trial period.

Elton R. Lash, vice-president of Welsh Learning Systems, addressed the board at its Monday evening meeting and gave details of the operational methods of his company.

The system, using certified and para-professional people as well as "learning machines" guarantees a one-school-year improvement in a student after 35 hours of their classwork and instruction. The cost to the student ranges from $1.25 to $2.00 per hour, depending on the number of students participating from the district.

Lash said they operate on the basis of from five to fifteen students per instructor. The students are pre-tested and post-tested. He said he hopes to set up two centers, one in the north and one in the south part of the district. Details of the program will be mailed to all parents in the district by the company. No time was given as to when he expected to start the program.

Lash told the board that this would be the first time his company would work on this scale with the cooperation of a public school system. He was attracted to this area because of the opportunities offered by the 45-15 Plan.

In other action the board approved the acceptance of an invitation to the school band to participate in the State Fair in Springfield.

Board president James Bingle read a letter from Levitt & Sons Builders that a total of 20-acres would be dedicated to the school district. Their subdivision site, if annexed to the Village of Naperville, will extend into District 96 and will generate, according to their figures, a total of 275 students for the district.

The school board had been attempting to set a cash-land contribution per pupil generated with the builder (to be applied to all builders) in conjunction with the Naperville school boards and village planning commission. Bingle commented that after months of negotiation that were back to their original position, and that the Naperville Board of Education was apparently backing off from their joint demands.

Bingle also announced that there would be a hearing before the Will County Zoning Board of Appeals on a proposed trailer court on Davey Road. The board attorney, Gene Korst, and board member Bruce Webster, will appear at the hearing to file an official objection from the board of education. The hearing will be at Valley View School at 7:30 p.m.

Romeoville school tax vote today

ROMEOVILLE — Residents in Valley View Elementary School District 96 go to the polls today to vote on a 10-cent tax increase and a two-part building construction proposal.

The tax increase, included in Proposition 3, would provide the district's building fund with enough added revenue to meet existing maintenance regulations.

Proposition 1 asks voters to approve acceptance of a $1,700,000 interest-free loan from the Illinois School Building Commission. The loan would be paid back over a 17-year period.

Proposition 2 seeks approval for the sale of $845,000 in bonds for school building construction. The Illinois School Building Commission will not make the loan in question in Proposition 1 unless the district utilizes its total bonding potential of $845,000 provided for in Proposition 2.

Voters who reside north of I-55 may vote at North View School on Briarcliff Road. Residents south of the highway may vote at Park View School on Dalhart Avenue near the Hampton Park Shopping Center.

The polls will be open from noon to 7 p.m.

Affidavits will be used instead of poll books.

If the building propositions are approved, the district would begin construction on a new 30-room school in Indian Oaks near Bolingbrook and on 15 additional rooms at both Ridge View School in Romeovile and Brook View School in Bolingbrook.

The additions are needed because the district could not borrow enough money in 1967 to fully equip the schools.

The district would also provide 24 classrooms in the old section of Park View School with air conditioning equipment. Classrooms in Valley View District schools now operate all year on the controversial 45-15 Plan.

Hoffman-Rossner Co. has offered to donate a $120,000 improved school site in its Indian Oaks development. The firm also has offered to provide $200,000 to the district for school construction.

Joliet Herald News

August 15, 1970

Page 1

Southwest Graphic

August 12, 1970

p. 1

School commission okays free loan to District 96

ROMEOVILLE — The Illinois School Building Commission has authorized an interest-free loan to Valley View Elementary School District 96.

This loan combined with a donation of land, donation of $200,000 by Hoffman-Rosner, and the district's remaining bonding privileges will enable District 96 to finance a new 30-room school in Indian Oaks and two 15-room additions to two existing buildings and to air-condition the old section of Park View School.

To make this loan possible the citizens of District 96 need to give their approval at a bond referendum on Saturday, August 15. The polling hours will be from noon to 7 p.m.

Voters north of Interstate 55 should vote at North View School on Briarcliff Road. Citizens south of Interstate 55 should vote at Park View School located on Dalhart Avenue near the Hampton Park Shopping Center.

Affidavits will be used instead of poll books. On or before August 15 voters need to be registered voters, residents of the state for one year, residents of the county for 90 days, and residents of the precinct for 30 days.

The referendum will place three propositions before the voters. Proposition 1 seeks voter approval to utilize the existing bonding power of approximately $845,000.

Proposition 2 would authorize District 96 to accept the interest-free loan of $1,700,000.00 from the Illinois School Building Commission to be paid back in 16 2/3 years and Proposition 3 would

(Continued on Page 2)

P. 2

District 96

(Continued from Page 1)

authorize a 10 cents increase in the building fund rate.

With the operation of all Valley View District 96 schools on the 45-15 Plan, the taxpayer will get the equivalent of 4 classrooms for the construction price of 3 classrooms.

The two schools for which the 15 room additions are to be constructed are Brook View School in Bolingbrook and Ridge View School in Romeoville. These two school buildings are the newest in the district. Brook View was finished in February, 1969 and Ridge View was finished in September, 1969.

These two buildings are often called "twin schools" because they are the same size and have the same room pattern. The buildings were constructed small because the district could not borrow enough money for additional rooms in 1967.

Enrollment in the Valley Veiw District 96 schools increased 900 per cent between 1953 and 1960 and increased another 525 per cent between 1960 and the end of the 1969-70 school year. Beginning with the present school year the school district was required to add kindergarten. Many new housing developments and the expansion of the present developments indicate over 10,000 pupils by the 1973-74 school year and over 20,000 pupils by 1980.

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Joliet HERALD-NEWS

Vol. 66-349 Joliet, Illinois, Sunday, August 16, 1970 102 Pages ☒ 25 Cents

Valley View passes three school issues

Page 1

ROMEOVILLE —A much needed expansion program was assured Saturday when residents in Valley View School District 96 approved a tax rate increase and a two-part building construction proposal.

By a vote of 591 to 459, voters approved a 10-cent increase in the ~~educational~~ tax rate.

In addition, voters approved a $1.7 million interest-free loan from the Illinois School Building Commission by a vote of 638 to 408, and also approved by a vote of 667 to 388 the sale of $845,000 in bonds for school building construction.

The interest-free loan from the Illinois School Building Commission will be paid back over a 17-year period. The loan was contingent on the passage of the sale of $845,000 in bonding potential for school construction.

Pat Page, research director for the district, said approval of the issues will save the school district $1.2 million in interest rates.

Voter approval of the issues opens the way for construction of a new 30-room school in Indian Oaks near Bolingbrook and a 15-room addition at both Ridge View School in Romeoville and Brook View School in Bolingbrook.

The district will also provide 24 classrooms in the old section of Park View School with air conditioning equipment. Classrooms in the Valley View District schools now operate throughout the entire year on the 45-15 Plan.

Saturday's voter approval also opens the way for acceptance of an offer by Hoffman-Rossner Co. to donate a $120,000 improved site in its Indian Oaks development and to provide $200,000 to the district for school construction.

Reprinted with permission from the Chicago Daily News.

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, Monday, August 17, 1970

$845,000 in school bonds OKd

Voters in Valley View School District 96 in Will County have approved a proposed building program in a three-part referendum.

The vote Saturday in the district, headquartered in Romeoville, was as follows:

- "Yes" 667 and "no" 388 on a proposal to authorize issuance of $845,000 in bonds.
- "Yes" 638 and "no" 408 on a proposal to accept an interest-free loan of up to $1.7 million from the Illinois School Building Commission.
- "Yes" 591 and "no" 459 on a proposal to raise the building-fund rate 10 cents.

The funds will go to build a 30-classroom building and two 15-room additions in the district, which has a school program operating 12 month a year instead of the usual nine.

Joliet Herald News August 18, 1970

Predict future problems for Romeoville schools

ROMEOVILLE — Despite the passage Saturday of a school referendum in the Valley View District, school officials are still trying to solve the problems a growing district brings.

"The referendum was not a panacea for problems in the future," one administrator said.

Short-term problems were solved when voters in the district approved an expansion program. Approval was given to build a 30-room school in the Indian Oaks subdivision and add 15 rooms to Ridge View and Brooks View schools with a $1,700,000 interest-free loan from the Illinois Building Commission. Utilization of $845,000 worth of bonds also was approved along with a 10-cent increase in the building fund.

Working along with the expansion program is the 45-15 plan. The plan divides the district's children into four groups, who attend school for 45 days followed by a 15-day vacation on a rotating basis.

However, according to school officials, the schools in the district are operating at capacity at the moment and one-fourth of the district's elementary students are not yet in school.

"We have approximately 1,330 students enrolled right now," Verne Shelley, Park View School principal, said. "Our capacity is 1,320."

Shelley explained that the 1,330 included six sections of kindergarten—only three meet at one time. However, the normal "capacity" figures are based on 30 students per classroom and teacher. This is the maximum the state recommends.

Ridge View School has a 480 student capacity.

"At last count we had 499 enrolled," said Mrs. Lillie Eneix, Ridge View principal.

According to Mrs. Eneix, Tract A is the heaviest enrollment-wise. Some transferring has been done to alleviate the problem but classes range from 32 to 40 pupils. Tract B and C classes have between 25 and 32 pupils.

Ridge View School has a different problem than Park View. Ridge View students come from areas that are still being developed whereas Park View is situated in an established area.

"We have tried to keep ahead of the game," said school board president James Bingle. "We got some breathing room with the 45-15 plan and can get by the next two years until we will have the additional facilities just passed in the special school election."

"Keeping ahead of the game" will be difficult for the school district.

Bingle said it depended on the growth.

"And we have every reason to believe it (growth) will accelerate in the future," he said.

Children from Tracts A, B and C fill bike rack at Park View School

The Beacon August 19, 1970

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO 'A'

This month marks the seventh anniversary of the Beacon's faithful and prolific political pundit, 'A. Politico', author of the "Hot Line". This weeks' column is the 203rd submitted.

'A. Politico', who has chosen to remain annonymous, has often presented views contrary to those held by the editors. At times his offerings have been downright maddening, but nevertheless lucid and interesting.

While many people know, or think they know, who our mystery writer is, we our duty bound not to reveal his name in print.

The fact that he has remained annonymous has, at times caused us grief, but it has been worth it.

The Beacon has and continues to welcome articles of a controversial nature. We do not ask that they be views we agree with, only that they be pertinent and interesting.

HOT LINE

A. Politico

Less than two months after the implementation of the Valley View 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan on June 30, 1970, residents of the school district had an excellent opportunity to express their collective displeasure with the changed system if they so desired. Last Saturday, only 4 days after the third of the four tracks of students had interrupted their normal summer vacations to go back to school, District 96 went to the public with a 3-part building referendum. Although the referendum was only peripherally related to 45-15, unhappiness with the 45-15 plan would certainly have been shown by a negative vote, since this is traditionally the way the public expresses its feeling on any issue.

While the very favorable outcome of the referendum (all 3 issues carried by substantial margins) cannot be said to be a particular endorsement of 45-15, it does show that the community was not necessarily immediately alienated by the Plan, which, in reality, has brought far reaching changes to everyone's way of life. The residents are apparently at least adopting a wait-and-see attitude as to the merits of year-round schools.

On another subject, we've never been able to get really excited about alledged violations of the Scariano Act---which restricts the "secret meetings" of governmental bodies in Illinois. The press typically yells when village or school officials hold executive sessions or closed committee meetings. Likewise, these officials normally become irritated when newspapers imply that there is something not so kosher about secret meetings.

Newspapers like to get on their high horse when anyone attempts to restrict the flow of information to the public---and they should be indignant about this, for news coverage is the primary protection against wrongdoing that the public has. Nevertheless, we feel that all the legislation in the world can not stop public officials from privately discussing problems that face them. How do you differentiate between a secret meeting and a luncheon engagement, for example, when several village officials get together for a meal and at the same time hash over problems facing their community. The real solution to the problem, we feel, is not legislation (which only forces those involved to call a secret meeting a private social gathering), but rather the election of officials who have demonstrated that they will work only for the betterment of the community. Far better to have an official that will fight for the public in private than one who will sell out the community in public.

Reprinted, courtesy of the Chicago Tribune.

Chicago Tribune Sunday, August 23, 1970

A Plan for Year-Round Schools

By Peter Negronida

Mr. Negronida is an education writer for The Tribune.

"What's so sacred about the nine-month school year?"

That question has been asked for years by school officials concerned about the economic waste and educational inefficiency of thousands of classrooms and millions of students idle for more than two months every summer.

The answer to their question—and the factor that has stymied most attempts at extending the school year to a year-round basis—is tradition. Summer, after all, has always been vacation time.

School districts have been trying to implement year-round school plans since the turn of the century. Some have been designed to save money by staggering student attendance so more can be taught in the same facilities; others to improve education by giving the students more time in school; and a few to do both.

Many of the plans failed on their own shortcomings. The others foundered on the rocks of opposition from parents, teachers, and students.

Must Eliminate Opposition

The elimination of opposition must be a prerequisite to any successful year-round school plan, whether it is undertaken to save money or improve education.

A radical new plan which seems to do just that has just emerged from a surprising place:

Valley View Elementary School District in Romeoville, Will County.

The Valley View district, one of the largest in area in the state at 41½ square miles, got into the year-round school business only out of financial necessity stemming from phenomenal enrollment growth. In the 17 years since it was formed out of six one-room districts, it has grown from 89 students to more than 5,000.

A constant stream of young families moving into new subdivision homes forced the Valley View School Board to build school after school until, by 1968, its authority to sell construction bonds was used up.

Divides Children in 4 Groups

The district needed 60 more classrooms this year to take care of expected enrollment growth and to start the kindergarten program required by the state for 1970, so it was obvious that drastic action was required.

The alternatives, as outlined by School Supt. Kenneth Hermansen, were these: double shifts, increased class size, or a year-round school plan that would postpone the need for construction by educating the additional children in existing facilities.

The board did not relish either of the first two, so it chose the third in spite of the risk and uncertainty involved.

The result of that decision made its debut June 30 as "The 45-15 Continuous School Year Plan." It divides Valley View's pupils into four groups, only three of which attend the district's six schools at the same time—on a staggered schedule of 45 school days followed by 15 vacation days.

To understand the 45-15 plan and how it was conceived, it is necessary to know what kinds of precedents Valley View officials had to work with.

Most previous year-round school plans have been built around the September-to-June school calendar that has been standard thruout the country for 50 years.

The major variations:

- The trimester plan. It shortens the existing two semesters just enough to fit a third one of equal length into the summer vacation period. It can be used to save money if two-thirds of the pupils are forced to attend the summer trimester and take one of the other two off, or to improve education if summer attendance is optional so that pupils can take more courses.
- The 12-4 plan, also called the consecutive quarter plan. It extends the school year for all pupils, who attend four 12-week quarters in a row followed by only a four-week vacation before the next cycle starts. Not aimed at saving money, it provides for accelerated or more intensive education.
- The 4-quarter plan, also called the staggered quarter plan. It redivides the two semesters of the usual school year into three quarters, and adds a fourth in the summer. It can be used to save money if three-fourths of the students must attend the summer quarter and take one of the other three off, or to improve education if attendance at the summer quarter is optional in addition to the other three.
- The 10-3 plan. It is a recent adaptation of other systems, with pupils attending four 10-week terms with three-week vacations between. It can be used only on a compulsory basis, to give children more class time, because three of the four terms fall short of the usual 180-day school year.

The Cost May Be Higher

When year-round school plans are geared to give pupils a better education, they inevitably cost more money than the conventional school year. In spite of that, several localities have tried or will try one plan or another.

Atlanta and surrounding Fulton County, Ga., have been on an optional 4-quarter system for two years on the theory that it provides more education for the added cost. It has won acceptance, and will be continued.

Louisville and surrounding Jefferson County, Ky., adopted the same kind of plan for implementation in the next year or two. Officials hope for some savings to offset added costs if enough students elect to attend the summer quarter and take one of the others off.

One elementary school in Hayward, Cal., has been on the 10-3 system for two

Turn to page 3, please

A New Year-Round School Plan

Continued from page 1

years, with encouraging results in student performance.

The major advantage of 10-3 over other plans is elimination of learning loss. That is the tendency of students to forget things over a long vacation, which forces teachers to spend excessive time on review.

Where the goal of a year-round school plan has been to save money by postponing or avoiding construction of more schools, the plan has usually run into enough opposition to prevent implementation.

Few parents want their children in school during the traditional summer vacation period and out for three months in fall, winter, or spring. And few school officials have been able to cope with the added administrative burden of making and maintaining a compulsory staggered schedule.

With that record of failure before them, Valley View school officials had to start almost at the beginning if they hoped to succeed.

It's Almost All New

The only features of earlier plans they incorporated were division of students into four groups for staggered attendance, and short attendance and vacation periods to minimize opposition and learning loss.

Pat Page, the district's research director, spent weeks drawing up schedules until he arrived at one with a cycle of nine weeks of classes and three weeks of vacation.

But even that proved impractical, because the uneven pattern of holidays thru the year made some attendance periods shorter than others.

The only solution, he and other officials found, was to junk the notion that school should start on Monday and end on Friday. Their final plan is based on school days—45 in class and 15 on vacation—even if a term begins or ends on a Wednesday. Thus each attendance period has exactly 45 days, and four periods a year add up to the required 180 school days.

Attendance of the four groups is staggered at intervals of 15 school days, so that group A, which started 45-15 on June 30, ends its first 45 days in class just in time for group D to start. Group A's 15-day vacation ends when group B finishes its 45 days in class, and so forth.

Another problem solved at Valley View was dividing children into groups so that brothers and neighbors are all on the same schedule.

Officials took a house-by-house census and then created four equal groups along geographic lines. Brothers and neighbors go to school at the same time, but they may go to different schools in order to balance class sizes among the schools.

Possible teacher opposition was avoided by offering a wide choice of contracts: anything from 180 days on the same schedule as one of the student groups to 244 days with only one vacation.

Overcome Major Obstacles

"Year-round school has failed in the past because of lack of public support and administrative inability to handle scheduling," said James R. Gove, assistant superintendent and project director. "Today we can say 'hogwash' to both."

The adoption of 45-15 gives Valley View a breather from its space problem, but anticipated enrollment growth to more than 20,000 by 1980 means that many more school buildings will be needed.

Indeed, even before implementing 45-15, the School Board decided it would need a tax rate increase, a bond issue, and an interest-free loan from the Illinois School Building Commission for one new building and two additions totaling 60 rooms.

In putting their proposals before the voters, officials said that the 60 classrooms needed under 45-15 would have been 80 if the district were still on a traditional calendar.

The three propositions came up this month, and were passed by margins ranging up to almost 2 to 1. Elated officials interpret the result as a vote of confidence in 45-15.

The federal government also has confidence in 45-15 as a promising venture, backing it with a $43,000 grant to finance a 10-year study of costs and educational benefits.

In addition, dozens of other school districts have inquired about the plan, including some in the Chicago area with the same financial woes.

So far, 45-15 is in operation in only one other place—the Francis Howell Elementary School District in St. Charles, Mo. Surprisingly, tho, Valley View and Howell developed their plans independently, and neither knew what the other was doing until Howell began year-round operation in one school on an experimental basis in the summer of 1969.

Nobody claims that 45-15 is THE answer to the year-round school question. Valley View School Supt. Hermansen said it was "just the way we decided to solve our particular problem."

The 45-15 system would probably be an administrative nightmare in any school district as large as Chicago or even Rockford, but a majority of the districts in the state are comparable in size and financial situation to Valley View.

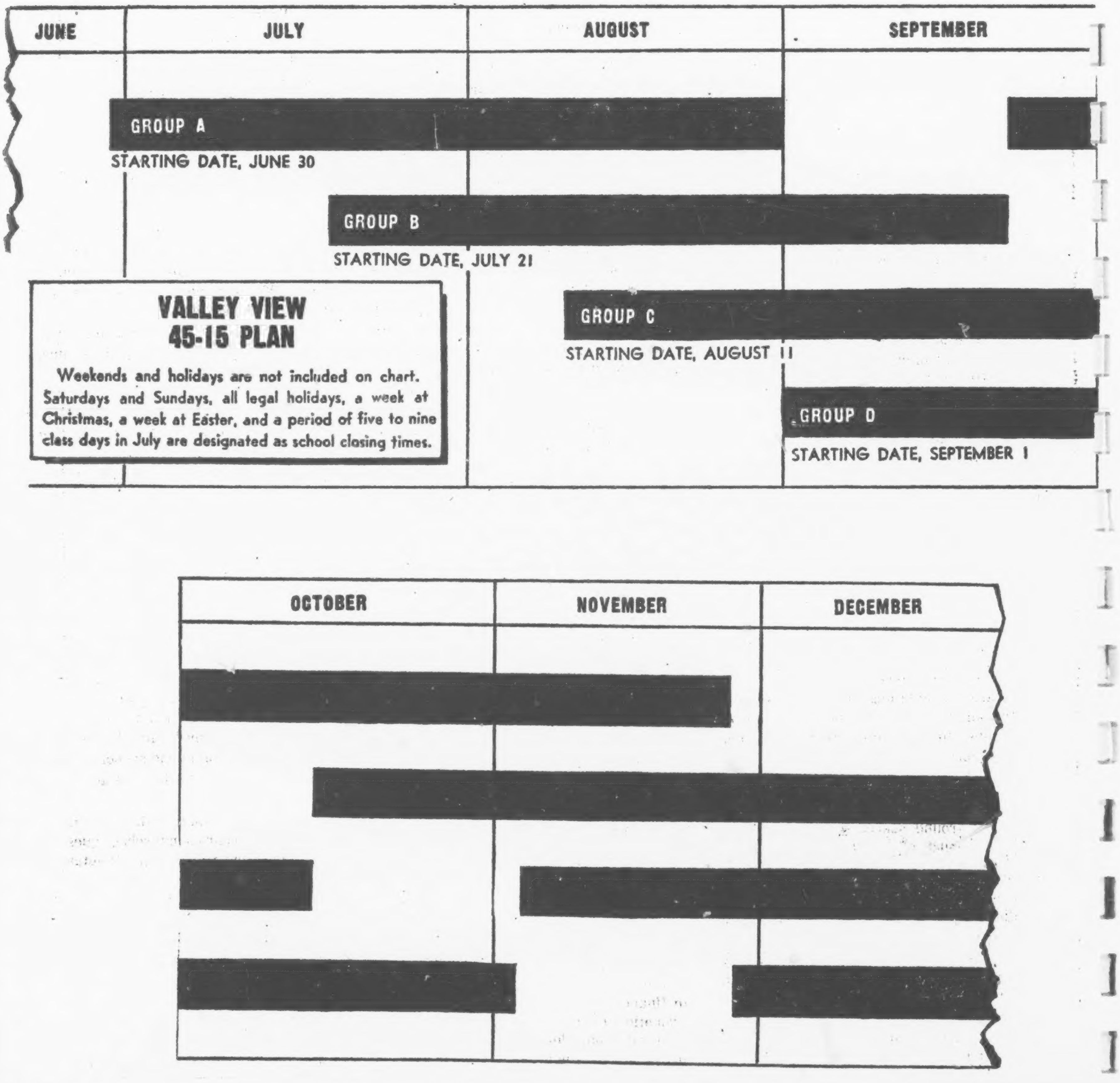
And for those districts, 45-15 is an approach that is well worth looking into.

Reprinted, courtesy of The Chicago Tribune.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE, SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 1970

Section 1A -3

Perspective



VALLEY VIEW 45-15 PLAN

Weekends and holidays are not included on chart. Saturdays and Sundays, all legal holidays, a week at Christmas, a week at Easter, and a period of five to nine class days in July are designated as school closing times.

Reprinted with permission from the Chicago Daily News

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

Saturday-Sunday, August 22-23, 1970 ☆

Valley View

All-year classes working

By Diane Monk

Some of the kids still say they'd prefer not to go to school at all, but educators rate the first two months of year-round classes in Valley View School District 96 as an unqualified success.

"In fact, it's going so smoothly that we're scared," said Kenneth Hermansen, superintendent of the Will County school district, which began operating on a year-round schedule last June 30.

The Valley View plan, dubbed "45-15," eliminates long summer vacations and replaces them with four 45-day class sessions, each followed by a three-week vacation. School also closes during Christmas week, Easter week and for at least one week in July.

SCHOOL OFFICIALS have received almost no complaints from parents or teachers about the year-round plan, says James R. Gove, an assistant superintendent.

But Tracy Howe, a fourth grader at the district's Park View School, told a reporter:

"You can't play much football with things this way, and I don't like it.

"You really can't do anything at all with 15 days off in the middle of winter."

THE DISTRICT'S 40,000 residents got their first chance to react to the plan last Saturday, when a three-part referendum was held on a school building program. Voters approved all three proposals, including one for the issuance of $845,000 in bonds.

Grove said taxes in the elementary district, which feeds pupils to the Lockport Twp. high schools, went up 15 times because the number of children in the schools kept growing.

When the district was formed 17 years ago, there were only 200 pupils. Now there are 6,800 students attending the district's five elementary schools and one junior high school.

The 41½-square-mile district includes two villages, Bolingbrook and Romeoville, where the district is headquartered. Eight per cent of the district is unincorporated.

BY ADOPTING THE year-round school plan, the district gained the equivalent of two 30-room buildings without spending a penny on construction.

The students now are divided into four groups, three of which attend 45-day sessions simultaneously. Classrooms no longer stand empty during the summer months.

The district's operating costs have not increased, but its teachers now have the opportunity to work all year and thus make more money, and 67 per cent of Valley View's faculty decided to teach year-round this year.

Gove said Valley View's is the only compulsory, year-round school plan now being operated on a districtwide basis in the United States.

"It's a good answer to the problem of too many taxes and too few classrooms," said Jan Crockett, a year-round kindergarten teacher at Park View School.

Mrs. Virginia Trent, who has three children in Valley View elementary schools, said she liked the year-round plan because "the kids always got so bored in the summer."

Joliet, Illinois, Tuesday, September 1, 1970

Valley View opens enrollment center

ROMEOVILLE — The Valley View Elementary School District has opened an enrollment center to simplify the procedure by which new residents of the school district can enroll their children.

This school district, especially in the Village of Romeoville and in the Village of Bolingbrook, is a very rapidly growing area. New families literally move in every day. By having an enrollment center, new families can get information about the school district and the specific school assignments for their children in one trip.

Valley View schools offer grades kindergarten through eighth in six schools. The school district, one of the largest elementary school districts in area in the state, covers 41½ square miles.

The enrollment center prepares the cumulative folders and the health records for each child, thereby saving clerical time and insuring that the records are complete.

All public elementary school children attend classes under the Valley View 45-15 continuous school year plan. Children are assigned to an attendance schedule according to the area in which they live.

The children attend 45 class days and then have a 15 class day vacation. This gives all children a vacation at Easter, a vacation at Christmas, a vacation at the 4th of July, and a three week vacation in each of the four seasons of the year. So far this scheduling plan has saved the school district six million dollars in building construction costs.

As a result of the 45-15 continuous school year plan, each child participates in a wide range of activities both in and out of school and better use is made of valuable school facilities and resources.

All new families get a copy of the 45-15 calendar and a careful explanation of how the plan works. In addition, all new families get a copy of an 18 page "Fact Book for Parents" which gives information about the school district and the community.

Builders and land developers are particularly interested in the enrollment center because it makes for a smooth entrance for the family into the community.

Mrs. Marlene Capps is the registrar. The phone number of the enrollment center is 838-8762. It is located at West View Junior High School at the corner of Belmont Drive and 135th Street in Romeoville.

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New law makes full-year school plan feasible

By Illinois Bar Association

Summer-long vacations may soon be a thing of the past for some school pupils in Illinois.

A new state law makes it easier for local school boards to adopt full-year school plans — and at least one Illinois school district already has taken that step.

The idea is not to speed up the educational process, but to make more efficient use of school facilities, employ teachers for a longer-working period, reduce class sizes and, in some cases, eliminate the need for double sessions. The plan may also provide relief for the taxpayers since it could reduce local school construction requirements.

The law allows school boards a great deal of latitude in developing full-year school schedules. The main requirement is that each student shall attend classes for not less than 180 days nor more than 185 days during a 12-month period, including not more than four teacher-institute days.

Local school districts adopting the plan must submit a calendar of 180-day school terms for approval by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. One such plan, adopted by the Valley View School District in Will County, is the so-called 45-15 arrangement. Students are divided into four groups, with each attending school for 45 continuous school days followed by 15 school days off. Starting dates are staggered so that only three groups attend school at any one time. All the pupils are out of school on legal holidays and an effort is made to keep children from the same family on the same schedule.

Under the law, teachers may not be required to teach more than 185 days during the school year but they are not prohibited from voluntarily teaching for longer periods.

The new law (Senate Bill 1458) is an amendment to the old full-year school law. The latter allowed school districts to operate schools on a 12-month calendar by dividing a 235-day school term into quarters. It provided that 75 per cent of the pupils enrolled in each grade had to be in attendance during each quarter.